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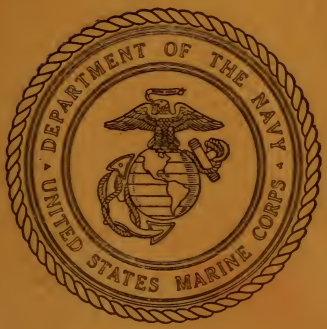

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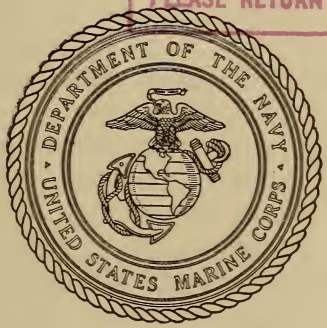

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *12 January 1955*

"Troop Leaders Guide" is approved and published for the information and guidance of all concerned.

LEMUEL C. SHEPHERD, Jr.
General, U. S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps

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Section I

INTRODUCTION

I. YOU ARE A LEADER.

The combat efficiency of your unit depends to a great extent upon you and your ability to lead men. You must be able to influence the men under your command so that in every situation they will perform their duties as Marines. If you are to lead men into battle, there are certain qualities which you must develop.

II. YOU MUST KNOW YOUR JOB.

You must know how to handle your unit under many varied conditions – in the attack, in the defense, and on patrol – in the jungle, in built-up areas, in the open – wherever your unit is required to fight. You must be skilled in the use of the weapons with which your men are equipped. You must know the effective ranges of these weapons and the damage they will inflict upon the enemy, his fortifications, weapons and equipment.

III. YOU MUST TRAIN YOUR MEN.

You must teach your men what they should know. You must instruct them in the care of their weapons and equipment. You must prepare them

mentally and physically for the conditions they will encounter in battle – long, hard marches; rain, snow, mud and mosquitoes; darkness and strange night sounds; short rations; and the general confusion of combat. You must teach them the tricks of hand-to-hand fighting – how to use their bayonets and knives. You must instill in them an aggressive spirit – make them anxious to come to close grips with the enemy and destroy him. You must build up in them a feeling of comradeship – a team spirit – that will make them unbeatable in combat.

IV. YOU MUST KNOW YOUR MEN.

You must learn all you can about each man in your unit – his background, his good and bad points, his skill in the use of weapons, his physical endurance, and courage. This knowledge will help you to predict and control the actions of your men; it will enable you to make the most of each man's abilities. You must maintain the esprit de corps of your unit by utilizing the special talents of your men and by taking an interest in each individual's everyday life.

V. YOU MUST BE AN EXAMPLE TO YOUR MEN – A FIGHTING EXAMPLE.

The best way to gain the confidence and respect of your men is to set a good example. Your attitude should be above reproach; your performance of duty should represent your very best. You must be absolutely loyal, not only to the leaders placed

over you and to your organization, but equally loyal to the men in your charge. Finally, and most important, it will be your coolness, courage and decisiveness in combat that will inspire your men to function as an efficient fighting team.

Section 2

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

I. SEVEN TROOP LEADING STEPS.

A. **General.** In order to establish a logical procedure for troop leaders performing combat functions, certain duties are listed in a prescribed sequence, known as the seven troop leading steps. All the steps do not apply in every situation, but you should use those which are applicable as a guide in carrying out your mission.

B. **Duties of leader (troop leading steps).**

1. Confer with other unit commanders.
2. Plan reconnaissance.
3. Select observation post and send for unit leaders.
   a. Select vantage point which affords best possible observation of area, making maximum use of available cover and concealment.
   b. Send for subordinate and attached unit leaders prior to making reconnaissance to insure their presence at vantage point for issuance of order.
4. Make reconnaissance (physical, visual or map).

5. Formulate plan.
   a. Make estimate of the situation.
   b. Determine scheme of maneuver and incorporate necessary supporting weapons to accomplish mission.
6. Issue order (five paragraph or fragmentary).
7. Supervise execution of order throughout the action.

II. ESTIMATE OF THE SITUATION.

A. **General.** Made to insure that you take all pertinent factors into consideration when formulating your plan.

B. **Duties of leader.**

1. Understand mission.
2. Consider enemy situation, strength and capabilities.
3. Evaluate terrain, both from friendly and enemy point of view.
   a. Locate critical terrain features.
   b. Determine best observation and fields of fire.
   c. Locate obstacles.
   d. Determine best cover and concealment and avenues of approach.
4. Weigh own possible courses of action against possible enemy courses of action.
5. Make decision.

III. **ORDERS.** Make them clear and brief. Follow standard form to insure completeness.

A. **Five paragraph form.**

---

1. **SITUATION**
   a. **Enemy Forces**
   b. **Friendly Forces**
   c. **Attachments and Detachments**
2. **MISSION**
3. **EXECUTION** (**Specific instructions to subordinate units**)
4. **ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS**
5. **COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS**

B. **Fragmentary order.** That portion of a five paragraph order necessary to get job done. Must contain missions for subordinate units.

IV. **APPLICATION OF FIRE.**

A. **Range estimation.** Estimate by observing strike of sighting shots or tracers (accurate but likely to expose your position or movements).

B. **Target designation.** Designate by pointing, oral description or tracer.

C. **Fire control—duties of leader.**
   1. Control opening of fire.
   2. Adjust fire.
   3. Shift all or part of fire.
   4. Regulate rate of fire.
   5. Give range.
   6. Designate targets.

7. Direct concentrated fire at a single point, such as machine gun position.
8. Direct distributed fire in width or depth to keep all parts of target under effective fire.
9. Insure distributed fire by assigning overlapping sectors of fire to subordinate leaders.
10. Insure that automatic riflemen cover entire squad target.

D. **Fire discipline.** You, as leader, enforce fire discipline, which is the state of order, coolness, efficiency and obedience existing among men engaged in a fire fight.

Section 3

DUTIES OF THE FIRE TEAM LEADER

I. **FORMATIONS:** Initial formations are ordered by squad leader, may be changed later due to enemy or friendly situation, mission or terrain. For positions of individuals within various fire team formations, see Figure 1.

II. **OFFENSE.**

A. **Scouting fire team—flank guard—flank patrol.**

1. Search assigned area rapidly, thoroughly and aggressively to prevent enemy from delivering surprise fire on friendly troops.
2. Observe and report all enemy activity or any change in terrain.
3. Take under fire all enemy within range and kill or capture them if possible.

B. **Connecting file or group.** Maintain contact between two units, pass reports between these units, and report any loss of contact; regain contact as rapidly as possible if lost.

C. **Part of maneuvering element.** Control movement of fire team as ordered by squad leader.

D. **Part of base of fire.** Move to assigned position, assign targets and sectors of fire, and supervise fire control and discipline.

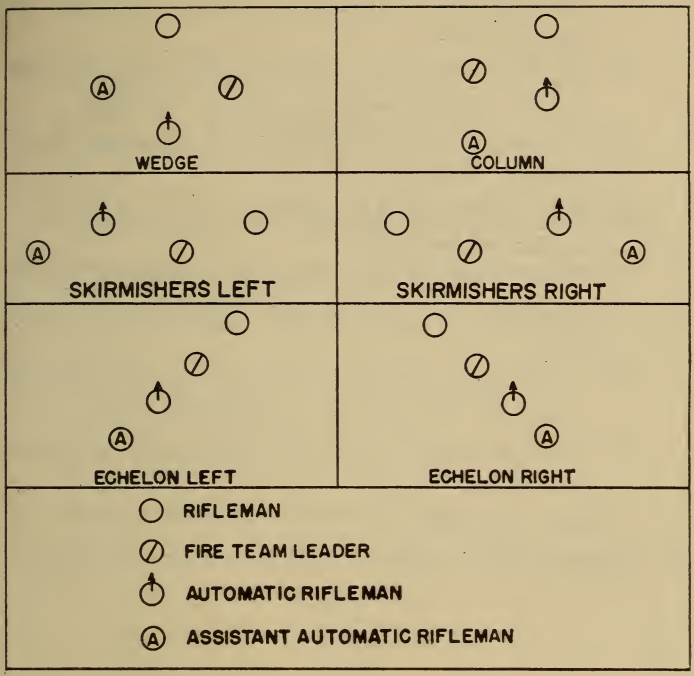

Figure 1.—Basic combat formations of the fire team.

III. DEFENSE.

A. Missions.

1. As part of front-line or reserve squad, take under fire, on order, all enemy within effective range.
2. Eject by close combat any enemy that reach position.
3. Hold position at all costs.

B. Placement of men.

1. Occupy assigned positions, assign principal direction and sector of fire for each rifleman,

and position automatic rifle as ordered by squad leader.

2. Supervise clearing fields of fire, construction of individual positions and camouflage.
3. Construct supplementary and alternate positions, if ordered.
4. Post all required security.

C. **Conduct of defense.**

1. Order opening and ceasing of fires on order, prescribe rate of fire and distribute ammunition.
2. Insure that automatic rifleman is immediately replaced if he becomes a casualty.
3. Occupy supplementary or alternate positions as ordered.

D. **Local security.** Provide security for parent unit by manning observation or listening posts as ordered.

Section 4

DUTIES OF THE RIFLE SQUAD LEADER

I. **FORMATIONS**. Order squad formation after considering terrain, mission and enemy situation.

A. **Squad column.**

1. Easy to control.
2. Minimum firepower to front.
3. Vulnerable to frontal fire.

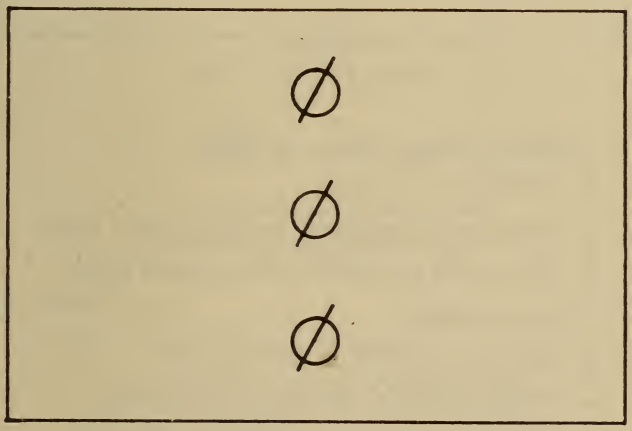

Figure 2.—Squad column.

B. **Squad line.**

1. Difficult to control.
2. Maximum firepower to front.

3. Not as vulnerable to frontal fire.
4. Useful for rapid movement through enemy mortar, artillery or long-range machine gun fire.

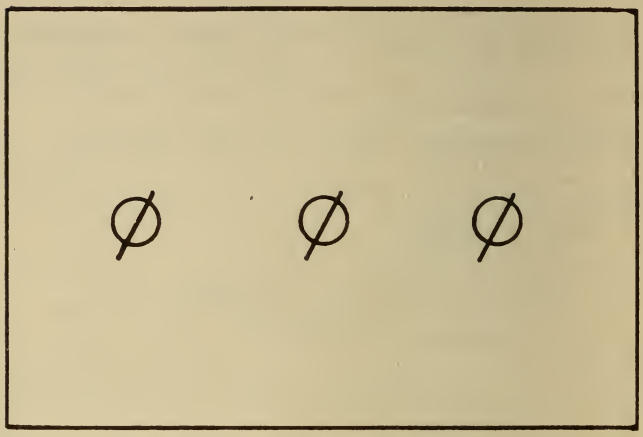

Figure 3.—Squad line.

C. **Squad echelon right (or left).**
1. Difficult to control.
2. Maximum firepower to right (left) flank.
3. Best used to protect an exposed flank.

D. **Squad wedge.**
1. Easy to maneuver and control.
2. Good firepower to front and flanks.
3. Provides security to front and flanks.
4. Good for narrow frontages, or when enemy situation is not clear. May be easily changed.

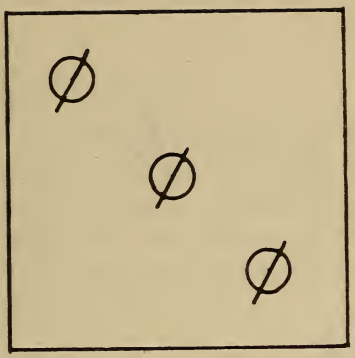

Figure 4.—Squad echelon right.

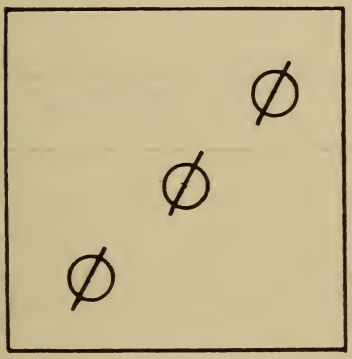

Figure 5.—Squad echelon left.

E. **Squad vee.**

1. Easy to move and control.
2. Good firepower to front and flanks.
3. Provides security to front and flanks.
4. Good when enemy contact is imminent. May be easily changed.

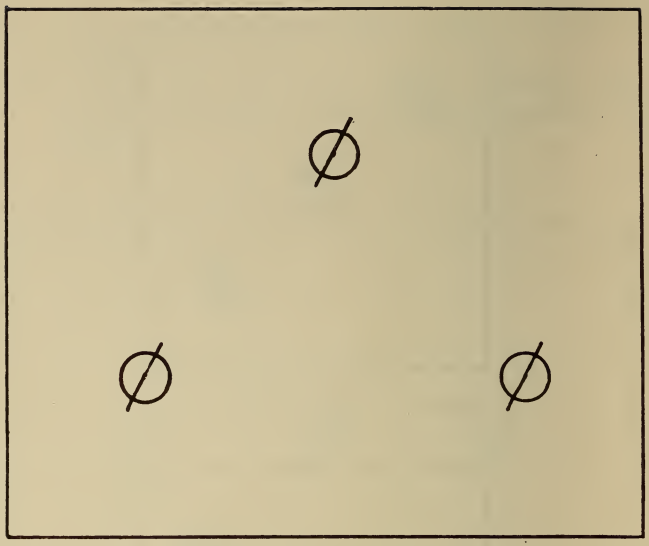

Figure 6.—Squad wedge.

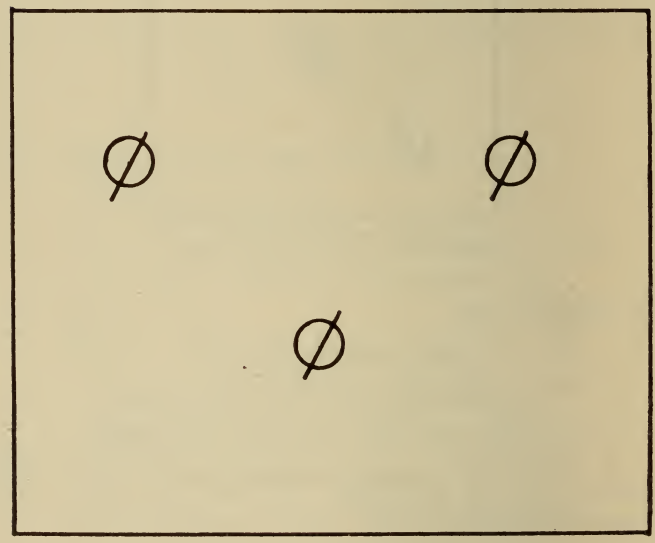

Figure 7.—Squad vee.

II. OFFENSE.

A. Movement to contact.

1. Squad as point of advance guard.
   a. Mission. To prevent enemy in immediate vicinity of route of march from opening surprise fire on troops to rear, and to prevent any undue delay of column.
   b. Duties of squad leader.
      (1) Lead advance party at distance set by advance party commander.
      (2) Move squad aggressively along route pointed out by advance party commander and investigate all likely ambush positions such as stream crossings, road junctions, small villages, and defiles.
      (3) Assign each fire team a sector of observation.
      (4) Report all enemy sighted; engage only enemy within effective range; determine their positions and strength; and inform advance party commander of enemy situation and action you are taking.
2. Squad as rear point.
   a. Mission. To provide security for rear of column.
   b. Duties of squad leader.
      (1) Direct squad against all enemy attacks in rear of column.
      (2) If enemy threatens to overrun your squad, withdraw to rear party.

3. Squad as flank patrol.
   a. Mission. To prevent enemy from placing effective small arms fire on column.
   b. Duties of squad leader.
      (1) Move squad along a route or to terrain feature pointed out by commander and investigate all areas likely to conceal enemy or permitting good observation of column.
      (2) Report all enemy sighted; engage only enemy within effective range; and resist enemy attack until enemy is destroyed or until ordered to withdraw.
4. Squad as connecting group.
   a. Mission. To maintain contact between units and to report location and situation of unit with which it maintains contact.
   b. Duties of squad leader. Make sure that all word is passed between the two units and that contact is not lost with either unit.
5. Squad as march outpost.
   a. Mission. To protect halted column from surprise attack by enemy.
   b. Duties of squad leader.
      (1) Move squad to assigned position.
      (2) Engage and report all enemy moving toward column.
      (3) Withdraw only on order.
6. Squad as part of column. Supervise march discipline of your squad.

B. **Attack.**

1. Squad in assembly area.
   a. Prepare squad for combat.
   b. Check equipment, ammunition, rations and water.
   c. Issue order.
   d. Post security for your squad.
2. Squad as maneuvering element.
   a. Envelopment. Move squad rapidly to assault position, taking advantage of available cover and concealment.
   b. Frontal attack.
      (1) Move squad forward by fire and maneuver until assault can be launched.
      (2) Direct entire forward movement of squad.
      (3) Coordinate movement with units on flanks.
3. Squad as base of fire.
   a. Move squad to firing positions.
   b. Assign sectors of fire and select targets.
   c. Control rate of fire.
   d. Shift or lift fire on order.
   e. Maintain contact with platoon commander and move squad forward on order.
4. Squad in the assault.
   a. Signal for assault to begin.
   b. Lead assault rapidly and aggressively through assigned objective.
   c. Supervise and control pursuit by fire.

C. **Consolidation.**

1. Place squad in hasty defense.
2. Report casualties.

3. Replace key personnel.
4. Check and redistribute ammunition.
5. Send prisoners to rear.

D. **Exploitation.** Direct squad in mopping up, lead squad in pursuit of enemy, or take action to continue attack, as ordered by platoon commander.

III. DEFENSE.

A. **Missions.** Squad may:

1. Serve as part of front-line platoon to stop enemy by fire forward of MLR and to repel him by close combat if he reaches it.
2. Organize and defend position to support MLR by fire or limit penetrations.
3. Serve as part of a general or combat outpost to delay, deceive and disorganize enemy.
4. Serve as local security.

B. **Organization of squad position.**

1. Carry out necessary troop leading steps.
2. Look for observation and fields of fire, cover and concealment, obstacles and avenues of approach.
3. Establish location and sector of fire for each fire team.
4. Assign principal direction of fire and sector of fire for each automatic weapon.
5. Post squad security and direct priority of work.
6. Check your squad constantly to assure that your orders are being carried out; that primary, alternate and supplementary positions are properly prepared; and that camouflage measures are being taken.

7. Check with supporting weapons in your area and coordinate your fires with them.
8. Coordinate your positions and fires with adjacent units.

C. **Conduct of defense.**

1. Open fire on enemy when within effective range or on order of platoon commander.
2. Shift your fires to cover any gaps caused by casualties.
3. Shift fires on order to cover penetrations in adjacent areas.
4. Move your squad only on order of higher authority.

D. **Security.**

1. Establish own security.
2. Furnish company observation or listening posts, if required.

IV. PATROLLING

A. **Missions.**

1. Combat patrol. To destroy the enemy and/or his equipment.
2. Reconnaissance patrol. To gain information about the enemy or terrain.
3. Security patrol. To protect a large unit.

B. **Duties of patrol leader.**

1. Prior to issuing warning order.
   a. Understand your mission.
   b. Make tentative plan.
   c. Coordinate with others.
   d. Select men.
2. Issue warning order.
   a. Situation.

b. Mission of patrol.
c. Instructions about weapons and equipment.
d. Chain of command.
e. Time and place patrol order will be issued.

3. Prior to issuing patrol order.
   a. Make reconnaissance.
   b. Determine plan of operation.
   c. Effect final coordination.
4. Issue patrol order.
   a. Situation.
   b. Mission and fire support.
   c. Plans of action.
      (1) If ambushed.
      (2) At rally point.
      (3) At check point.
      (4) At FPOA.
   d. Administrative details.
      (1) Method of handling wounded.
      (2) Method of handling prisoners.
   e. Command and signal matters.
      (1) Intra-patrol communications.
      (2) Command communications.
5. Conduct rehearsal (if possible).
6. Inspect members of patrol.

V. ESTABLISHING AMBUSHES

A. **Mission.** To attack a moving enemy by surprise from a hidden position.

B. **Duties of ambush party leader.**

1. Select terrain that will place enemy at a disadvantage while placing ambush party at an advantage.
2. Select position of each man.

3. Make up fire plan, including sector of fire for each weapon, rate of fire, and hand grenade plan.
4. Determine route and method of withdrawal.
5. Determine locations of rally points.
6. Establish signals for commencing and ceasing fire, including when to be given. by whom, and type of signal.
7. Provide for security.

Section 5

THE RIFLE PLATOON

DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. **FORMATIONS.** As platoon commander, order formation for your platoon which will best assist in accomplishment of mission. Position yourself where you can best control platoon.

A. **Platoon column.**
1. Easy to control.
2. Minimum firepower to front.
3. Vulnerable to frontal fire.
4. Suitable for movement over narrow, covered routes of advance; passing through gaps between areas receiving enemy artillery fire; movement through areas of limited observation; and movement under conditions of poor visibility.

B. **Platoon line.**
1. Difficult to control.
2. Maximum firepower to front.
3. Not as vulnerable to frontal fire.
4. Best for crossing areas exposed to enemy fire.

C. **Platoon wedge.**
1. Easy to control.
2. Good firepower to front and flanks.
3. Provides security to front and flanks.

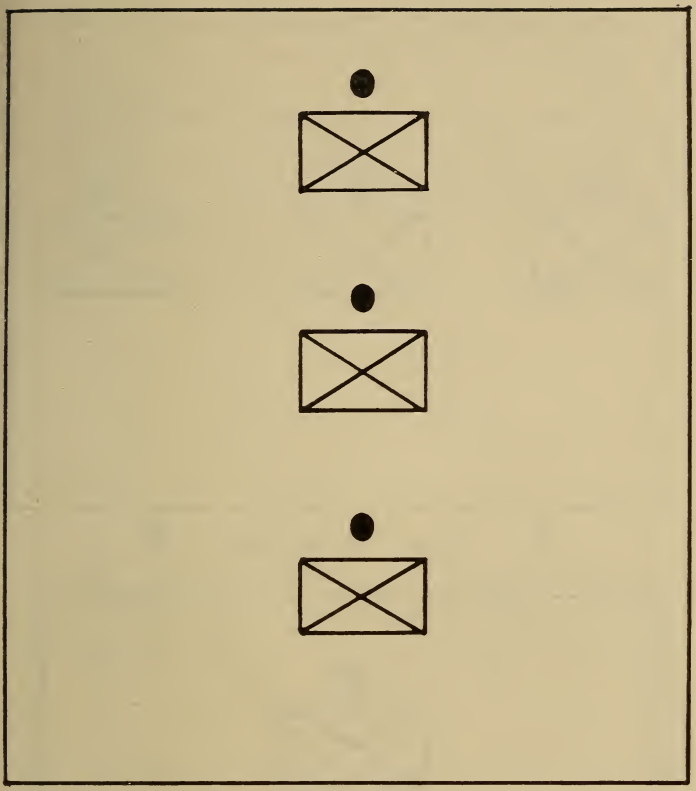

Figure 8.—Platoon column.

4. Enables one or two squads to be held out as a reserve.
5. Employed when platoon is in close terrain, when platoon frontage is narrow, or when little is known of enemy strength or position.

D. **Platoon vee.**

1. Easy to control.
2. Good firepower to front and flanks.

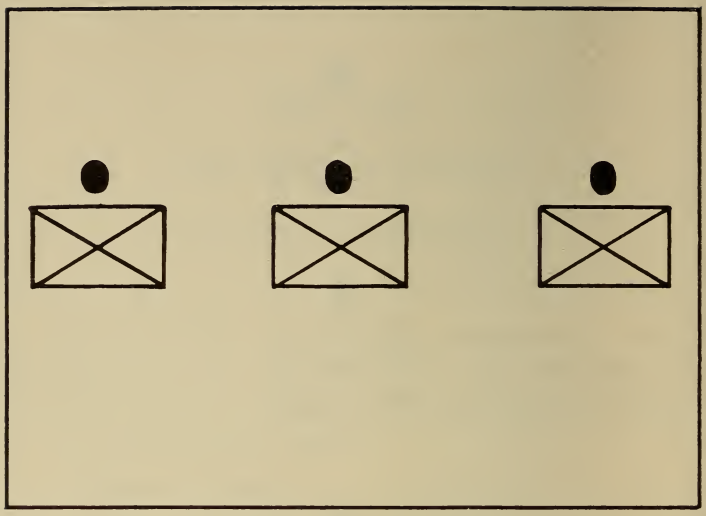

Figure 9.—Platoon line.

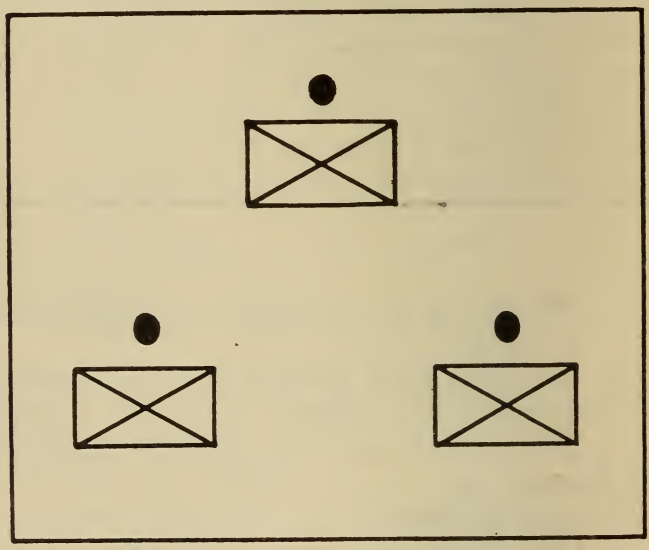

Figure 10.—Platoon wedge.

3. Provides security to front and flanks.
4. Enables one or two squads to be held out as a reserve.
5. Employed when terrain is open, when frontage is wide, or when enemy is believed to be directly to front and his approximate strength is known.

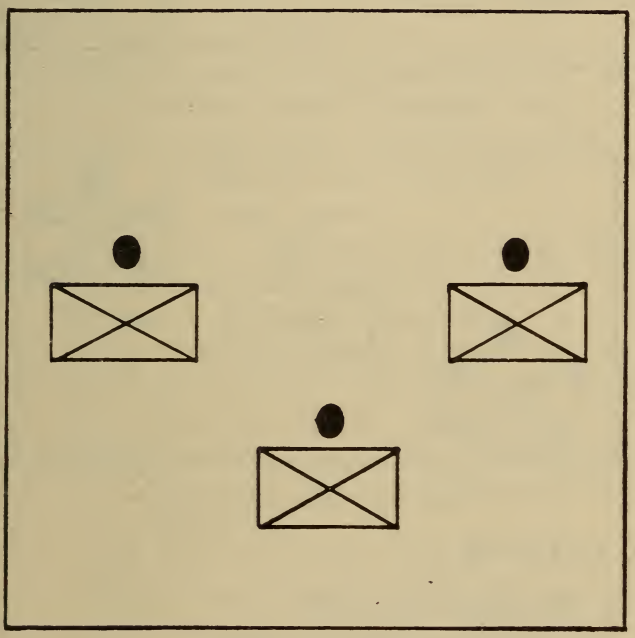

Figure 11.—Platoon vee.

E. **Platoon echelon right (or left)**

1. Difficult to control.
2. Maximum firepower to right (or left) flank.
3. Best used to protect an exposed flank.

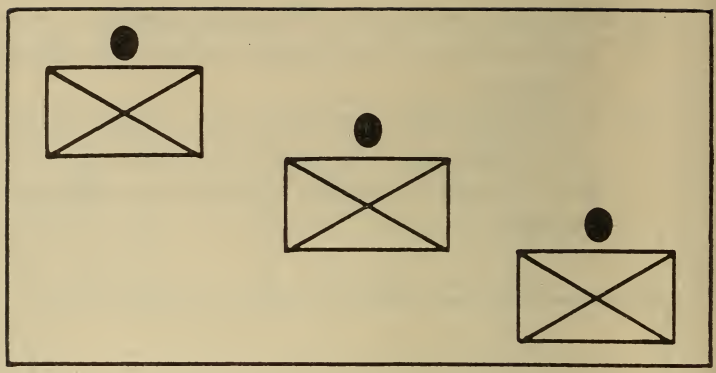

Figure 12.—Platoon echelon right.

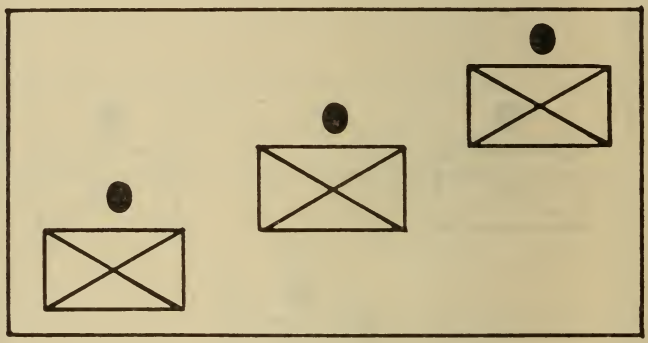

Figure 13.—Platoon echelon left.

II. OFFENSE.

A. **Movement to contact.**

1. Platoon as advance party.
   a. Mission. To secure uninterrupted forward movement of main body.
   b. Duties of platoon commander.
      (1) Normally use column formation, send squad forward as point, and place fire team on each flank for flank security.

(2) Move at head of advance party or between advance party and point.
(3) Follow assigned route, direction and rate of march prescribed by column commander.
(4) Prescribe distance that point will precede advance party, and at night, or during times of poor visibility, establish connecting files between point and advance party.
(5) Report to company commander areas on flanks likely to conceal enemy.
(6) During halts, provide security by establishing march outposts.

2. Platoon as flank guard.
   a. Mission. To prevent enemy from placing effective small arms fire on column.
   b. Duties of platoon commander.
      (1) Occupy an important terrain feature, or move parallel to column at distance stated by column commander.
      (2) Search all areas likely to conceal enemy or provide him with good observation of column.
      (3) Report all enemy sighted.
      (4) Engage all enemy within effective range.
      (5) Resist enemy attack until ordered to withdraw.

3. Platoon as march outpost.
   a. Mission. To prevent enemy from placing effective small arms fire on halted column.
   b. Duties of platoon commander. During temporary halt of column, and on specific

orders of column commander, deploy on critical terrain features controlling approaches to route of march.

4. Platoon as part of main body. Supervise march discipline of your unit and keep abreast of situation in case your unit is assigned one of the preceding missions.

B. **Attack.**

1. Platoon in assembly area.
   a. Duties of platoon commander.
      (1) Assign squad areas within your platoon area.
      (2) Provide for security.
      (3) Prepare your platoon for combat.
      (4) After receiving attack order, carry out necessary troop leading steps to accomplish mission.
   b. Duties of platoon sergeant.
      (1) Assist in preparing platoon for combat.
      (2) Accompany platoon commander to receive company attack order, if ordered.
   c. Duties of platoon guide.
      (1) Determine supply needs of platoon, based on mission assigned.
      (2) Distribute supplies.
      (3) Assist in preparing platoon for combat.
2. Platoon as maneuvering element – duties of platoon commander.
   a. Envelopment.
      (1) Move your platoon rapidly to assault position, taking advantage of covered approaches.

(2) Use fire and maneuver to destroy small groups of enemy encountered before arriving at assault position.

(3) Maintain contact with company commander at all times.

b. Frontal attack.

(1) Direct advance of one or more of your squads by utilizing fire and maneuver, moving rapidly to assault position.

(2) Maintain contact with company commander at all times.

3. Platoon as base of fire—duties of platoon commander.

a. Deliver accurate, aimed fire at enemy.

b. Control rate of fire through your squad leaders.

c. Shift or lift fire when ordered or on prearranged signal.

d. Anticipate forward movement of your platoon by selecting covered routes forward.

e. Move your platoon forward rapidly, on order.

f. Maintain contact with company commander at all times.

4. Platoon in assault—duties of platoon commander.

a. When necessary to coordinate assault, insure that all members of assaulting element are in position.

b. Signal for assault to begin and lead assault element rapidly and aggressively through assigned objective.

c. Control pursuit fire of your unit.

C. **Consolidation—duties of platoon commander.**

1. Place assault element in hasty defense positions.
2. Reorganize platoon by replacing key personnel, redistributing ammunition, evacuating casualties and resupplying necessities.
3. Move all prisoners to rear
4. Direct base of fire to move forward.

D. **Exploitation—duties of platoon commander.** Direct platoon in mopping up, control platoon in physical pursuit, or continue attack, as ordered.

III. DEFENSE

A. **Front-line platoon.**

1. Mission. With support of other arms, to stop enemy by fire forward of MLR and to repel him by close combat if he reaches it.
2. Organization of platoon defense area—duties of platoon commander.
   a. Closely coordinate with adjacent and supporting unit commanders to insure mutual support, protection of crew-served weapons, and flexible fire plan.
   b. Familiarize yourself with battalion and company fire plans.
   c. Study terrain for avenues of approach, cover and concealment, observation, obstacles and fields of fire.
   d. Select squad positions, generally placing three squads abreast to deliver maximum fire to front.
   e. Select supplementary positions for all-around defense.

f. Select location for platoon CP-OP which gives best observation to front and flanks.

g. Select locations for forward observers, commanders of supporting weapons and communications and supply personnel near CP-OP.

h. Issue defense order.

(1) Assign sector of fire to each squad, emplace each automatic rifle to cover major portion of squad sector of fire, and assign principal direction of fire to cover specific terrain feature or gap in final protective fires of supporting weapons.

(2) Give instructions on placement of tactical and protective wire, obstacles to be constructed or improved, locations of barrages and concentrations, password and countersign, and special signals for firing final protective fires.

(3) Establish local security.

(4) Assign priority of work.

i. Supervise execution of defense order.

j. Insure that automatic weapons are manned, fields of fire are cleared, foxholes and weapons emplacements are constructed, tactical and protective wire is laid, and supply and evacuation routes are established.

k. Insure that fires of your platoon cover your platoon front and flanks and portions of front of adjacent units.

3. Conduct of defense—duties of platoon commander.
   a. Insure that men take cover in positions during enemy preparatory fires.
   b. Direct and control fires through squad leaders when enemy is within effective small arms range.
   c. Request supporting fires, if necessary.
   d. Shift fires to adjacent areas if they are penetrated.
   e. Move personnel to supplementary positions if flanks or rear areas are threatened.

B. **Reserve platoon.**

1. Missions. To support MLR by fire, to extend depth of company defense area, to protect flanks and rear of company, to block or limit penetrations, and, on rare occasions, to counterattack.
2. Duties of platoon commander. Generally the same as those of front-line platoon commander, except that you locate your squads to deliver heaviest fire forward of front-line platoon positions.

C. **Combat outpost.**

1. Missions. To provide security to front and flanks of a front-line battalion by giving warning of enemy approach, delaying or disorganizing enemy to gain time for main force to prepare defenses, causing enemy casualties, and deceiving him as to location of MLR; and to cover withdrawal of general outpost.

2. Characteristics.
   a. Usually platoon or company size, reinforced with supporting weapons.
   b. Located between 800 and 2000 yards forward of MLR.
   c. Long range observation and fields of fire are particularly important.
3. Duties of outpost commander.
   a. Organization of outpost.
      (1) Organize easily defended terrain.
      (2) Split automatic weapons to deceive enemy as to outpost strength.
      (3) Use outguards and patrols to give warning of enemy approach.
   b. Conduct of outpost.
      (1) When warned of enemy approach, order opening of fires at long ranges to cause enemy to deploy and lose time.
      (2) Withdraw when greatly superior enemy is deployed for action, unless ordered otherwise.
      (3) Keep main battle position commander informed of situation.

D. **Relief of lines—duties of platoon commander.**
1. Confer with outgoing unit commander.
2. Reconnoiter new area.
3. Leave liaison personnel with unit to be relieved.
4. Relieve unit on order, by increments as specified by company commander.

E. **Security—duties of platoon commander.**
1. Establish security of your unit.

2. Employ sentinels during daylight, listening posts and patrols at night.
3. Check sentinels and listening posts frequently.

IV. **PATROLLING.** Missions and actions of patrol leader for platoon-size patrols are generally the same as those for squad-size patrols.

V. **AMBUSHES.** Missions and actions of ambush party leader for platoon-size ambushes are generally the same as those for squad-size ambushes.

Section 6

THE 60mm MORTAR SECTION
DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. OFFENSE.

A. Duties of section leader.

1. Move with command group.
2. Make recommendations to company commander for employment of your unit.
3. Make continuous physical, visual and map reconnaissance of company zone of action to determine enemy locations, observation posts, firing positions and routes of displacement.
4. Coordinate plan with other supporting weapons and arms representatives and with unit leaders supported.
5. After completing initial reconnaissance, order squad leaders to location where firing positions can be seen or pointed out; orient them; announce azimuth or general direction of fire; and issue order, including conduct of fire, location of alternate positions and instructions for occupying, security of firing positions, ammunition expenditure and resupply.
6. Supervise execution of your order and plan for timely displacement of section to effectively continue support.

7. Select section observation posts providing good view of targets, sector of fire, and friendly troops supported; permitting signals with next higher leader; providing cover and concealment; and permitting fire control of mortars by voice and signals.
8. Select alternate observation posts and routes thereto.

B. **Duties of section sergeant.**

1. As second-in-command, be prepared to assume all duties of section leader in his absence.
2. Select and assign general locations for squads in section position area.
3. Man section observation post and engage targets.
4. Organize security for section position.

C. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Lead squad to designated location and select exact firing position.
2. Issue order and direct preparation and occupation of position.
3. Prepare alternate position.

II. **DEFENSE.**

A. **Duties of section leader.**

1. Coordinate with supporting arms and weapons representatives, supported unit leaders and company machine gun officer in assisting company commander in preparation and execution of company fire plan.

2. Recommend location of barrage for each mortar and concentrations for section.
3. Register barrages and concentrations forward of MLR.
4. Compute data for concentrations selected on and to rear of MLR to provide fire support in event of penetrations.
5. After completing coordination and reconnaissance, order subordinates to location where firing positions can be pointed out; orient them; announce azimuth or general direction of fire; and issue defense order, including location of alternate and supplementary positions, instructions and signals for occupying, signals for firing barrages, and rate of fire.
6. Supervise execution of your order.
7. Enforce camouflage discipline.
8. Remain with company command group.

B. **Duties of section sergeant.** Perform generally the same duties as on offense.

C. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Lead squad to designated location and select exact firing position.
2. Direct preparation and occupation of position.
3. Prepare alternate and supplementary positions.
4. Enforce camouflage discipline.
5. Make timely request of section leader for ammunition resupply, and provide for proper storage.
6. Provide personnel for section security.

III. ATTACHMENT OF MORTAR SQUAD TO FRONT-LINE UNIT. DUTIES OF SQUAD LEADER.

A. Coordinate fire plan with commander of unit to which attached.

B. Select and man squad observation posts.

C. Define sector of fire.

D. Recommend and register barrage and concentrations.

E. Engage targets.

F. Order and conduct displacements to provide continuous support.

G. Maintain communications between squad and supported unit commander.

H. Establish squad security.

Section 7

THE ROCKET SECTION, RIFLE COMPANY

DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. **OFFENSE.**

A. **Duties of section leader.**

1. Coordinate with supported unit commander.
2. Make continuous physical, visual or map reconnaissance of area to determine most likely direction of enemy mechanized attack, profitable targets for rocket fire, good firing positions, and routes of displacement.
3. After making initial reconnaissance, take squad leaders to vantage point where good observation of ground is available, and orient squad leaders, pointing out most dangerous avenues of approach, enemy targets, and locations of other antimechanized units in area.
4. Issue order, including instructions for occupying positions, conduct of fire, alternate positions, ammunition expenditure and resupply.
5. Supervise execution of your order and control movements of squads to fit maneuver of rifle elements.
6. When section is attached, move with command group.

7. Keep abreast of situation and recommend methods of employing your unit.
8. Check supply status of your unit and assist in resupply.

B. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Direct your squad in all movements and select exact firing positions in assigned area.
2. Issue fire orders, control fire, and locate and engage enemy targets in your sector.
3. Keep close check on ammunition and insure that resupply is made when possible.

II. DEFENSE.

A. **Duties of section leader.**

1. Coordinate with supported unit commander and other antimechanized units in recommending, preparing, and executing company antimechanized plan.
2. Make complete reconnaissance of area.
3. Order squad leaders to vantage point where defense area can be observed, and orient them as to dangerous avenues of approach, suspected enemy locations, and positions of other antimechanized units.
4. Issue order, including:
   a. Coordination of fire plan with other units.
   b. Primary, alternate and supplementary positions and instructions for occupying them.
   c. Conduct of fire.
   d. Status of ammunition supply.
5. Supervise execution of your order.
6. Enforce fire discipline and camouflage.

B. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Move your squad to assigned area and select exact firing positions.
2. Assign principal direction and sector of fire to each weapon.
3. Point out other antimechanized units and explain how fire plan is coordinated.
4. Indicate all antimechanized obstacles and methods of covering them by fire.
5. Direct preparation and occupation of primary position.
6. Issue instructions concerning preparation and occupation of alternate and supplementary positions.
7. Enforce camouflage discipline.
8. Issue fire orders, control fire, and locate and engage enemy targets in your sector.
9. Control ammunition expenditure and request resupply as needed.

Section 8

THE MACHINE GUN PLATOON, RIFLE COMPANY

DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. **OFFENSE.**

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. When attached, coordinate employment with rifle unit commander.
2. If mission requires immediate movement, order platoon forward to cover area in vicinity of firing positions before making reconnaissance.
3. Instruct section leaders to report for orders.
4. Make reconnaissance.
   a. Identify targets and sectors of fire and locate firing position area.
   b. Select observation post affording best observation of area.
   c. Determine locations of friendly units already in position.
   d. Compute firing data for assigned targets, hostile localities and critical terrain features.
   e. Determine locations where your fires will endanger friendly troops and establish safety limits.
5. Issue attack order.

6. Supervise occupation of firing positions and notify company commander when all preparations have been completed.
7. Establish platoon security and coordinate it with that of supported rifle units.
8. Search for and engage targets, taking into consideration other supporting fires and status of your ammunition supply.
   a. Use close support fires against crew-served weapons and organized defenses directly opposing advance.
   b. Use long range fires when terrain permits successive engagement of targets in rear of hostile forward positions. When used, establish new safety limits.
   c. Use flank protective fires when progress of supported unit is more rapid than that of adjacent units.
   d. Assist advance of a retarded unit when ordered by company commander.
9. Keep platoon close to supported troops by timely displacement.
   a. In general support, displace platoon forward on order of company commander.
   b. In direct support, order forward displacement.
   c. When attached, displacement is ordered by unit commander to which attached. (Authority to displace may be given to platoon commander.)
   d. Accomplish displacement by section.
      (1) Displace one section forward while the others remain in position and continue to support the attack.

(2) Order rear sections to remain in position until leading section has occupied new firing position.

10. Prepare to repel counterattack when hostile position has been seized.
11. Displace, on order, at least one section to position immediately after its capture to cover consolidation.
12. Prepare to support rifle units in case continuation of attack is ordered.
    a. Obtain all information upon which to base plans for supporting continuation of attack.
    b. Complete new reconnaissance to enable you to order occupation of new firing positions.

B. **Duties of platoon sergeant.**

1. Command platoon during platoon commander's absence.
2. Locate yourself where you can best assist platoon commander.
3. Move at rear of platoon on the march.
4. Supervise supply, enforce discipline and control evacuation of casualties.
5. Command rear section(s) during displacement.
    a. Direct and control fires of rear section(s) to provide continuous fire support for attacking echelons.
    b. Move rear section(s) forward to new positions on order.

C. **Duties of section leader.**

1. Select and assign squad positions within assigned area.

2. Assign targets and sectors of fire and control fires of section.
3. Regulate displacements and supervise employment of ammunition bearers.
4. Maintain an adequate ammunition supply.
5. Establish security for section.
6. When operating separately, perform duties prescribed for platoon commander.

D. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Select exact firing position for squad within assigned area.
2. Supervise preparation and occupation of firing position.
3. Observe and control fire of your squad.
4. Supervise employment of your ammunition bearers.

E. **Duties of ammunition corporal.**

1. Maintain an adequate supply of ammunition in accordance with mission and as directed by platoon commanders.
2. Keep platoon commander informed of status of supply at all times.
3. Recommend location of platoon ammunition point.

II. DEFENSE.

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Organization of defense area.
   a. Make reconnaissance of company area.
      (1) Consider observation, fields of fire, natural obstacles, cover and concealment and possibility for camouflage.

(2) Select firing positions for each squad.
(a) Coordinate its fires with front-line platoons.
(b) Avoid positions within hand grenade range (50 yards) of defiladed approaches or wire obstacles.
(c) Separate guns by at least 30 yards to reduce chance of having more than one gun destroyed by single shell burst.

(3) Select sectors of fire and final protective line for each squad, based upon firing mission assigned in company defense order.

(4) Make decisions and adjustments so that firing position of each squad permits maximum effective fire within its sector and along its final protective line.

(5) Select alternate positions and routes to them.

(6) Select supplementary positions for all-around defense.

(7) Select covered routes of communication and supply, if possible.

b. Submit completed fire plan to company commander for approval.

c. Upon approval of fire plan, issue defense order.

d. Supervise occupation of positions; clearing of firing lanes; preparation of positions (primary, alternate and supplementary); camouflage; and construction of obstacles.

2. Conduct of defense.
   a. Direct machine gun fire against profitable enemy targets, control and coordinate fires to gain maximum effectiveness.
   b. Move guns to alternate positions to avoid their destruction by hostile fires.
   c. Insure that all guns are firing their final protective lines when final protective fires are called down.
3. Security. Establish all-around security for platoon in conjunction with supported rifle units.

B. **Duties of platoon sergeant.**

1. Organization of defense area.
   a. Move sections and squads forward to their positions, and check sectors of fire and final protective lines.
   b. Supervise preparation of gun positions.
   c. Enforce camouflage discipline.
   d. Inspect local security elements.
   e. Familiarize yourself with over-all fire plan.
2. Conduct of defense.
   a. Assist in directing fires.
   b. Observe and report changes in situation.
   c. Supervise movements of guns within position.
   d. Assist in reorganization of elements of platoon when casualties occur.
   e. Closely supervise status of supply

C. Duties of section leader, squad leader and ammunition corporal. Perform generally the same duties as on offense.

Section 9

THE MACHINE GUN PLATOON, WEAPONS COMPANY

DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. **OFFENSE. DUTIES OF PLATOON COMMANDER.**

A. Perform basically the same duties as those of maching gun platoon commander, rifle company.

B. In addition, perform following duties:

1. Closely coordinate and control all fires to insure that they fit into over-all battalion fire plan.
2. Prepare plans for employment, targets to be engaged, displacements, and positions to be occupied, and clear them with weapons company commander, who coordinates battalion fire plan.
3. Utilize organic transportation to enable platoon to support the attack to maximum degree.
4. Remain with platoon when employed in general support mission.
5. Remain with bulk of platoon when employed in direct support or attachment.
6. Remain at most critical scene of action or with weapons company commander when one section is attached to each rifle company.
7. Must have a thorough knowledge of methods of indirect fire.

II. **DEFENSE.** Perform generally the same duties as on offense.

Section 10

THE ANTITANK ASSAULT PLATOON, WEAPONS COMPANY

DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. **OFFENSE.**

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Act as consultant to other commanders on matters requiring use of assault platoon or its equipment.
2. Carry out necessary troop leading steps which time will allow, in accordance with mission assigned.
3. When a section or squad is attached to rifle unit, coordinate employment with rifle unit commander.

B. **Duties of platoon sergeant.**

1. Locate yourself where you can best assist platoon commander.
2. Command platoon during platoon commander's absence.
3. Carry out orders issued by platoon commander.
4. Supervise supply, enforce discipline, and control evacuation of casualties.

C. **Duties of section leader.**

1. Direct employment of your section according to orders from platoon commander or supported rifle unit commander.

2. Supervise resupply of ammunition for section.
3. When attached to rifle unit, coordinate use of assault weapons with rifle unit commander.

D. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Control your squad and lead it in all movements except when flame thrower team and rocket team are separated by commander of rifle unit to which attached.
2. Supervise employment of squad according to orders received.
3. Supervise resupply of ammunition and fuel.

II. DEFENSE.

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Carry out necessary troop leading steps which time will allow, in accordance with mission assigned.
2. Assign rocket launchers position areas or keep them in readiness in threatened sectors where their concentrated fire may be needed for antimechanized defense.
3. Attach rocket teams to rifle units, if ordered.

B. **Duties of platoon sergeant.** Assist platoon commander in occupation of position areas or assigned sectors for antimechanized defense.

C. **Duties of section leader and squad leader.** Perform generally the same duties as on offense.

Section 11

THE 81mm MORTAR PLATOON, WEAPONS COMPANY

DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. OFFENSE.

A. Duties of platoon commander.

1. Move with battalion command group and make recommendations for employment of your platoon.
2. Make continuous reconnaissance of zone of action to determine locations of enemy positions, observation posts or best method of employing observers, firing positions, routes of communication and locations of supported infantry units.
3. Coordinate plans with other supporting weapons and arms and with supported infantry units.
4. Issue order, including firing positions, locations of observation posts, initial registrations, and fire missions.
5. Allot ammunition and determine method of resupply.
6. Establish communication system to be used.
7. Supervise execution of order.

8. Plan for displacements to insure continuous fire support.

B. **Duties of assistant platoon commander.**

1. As second-in-command, assume duties of platoon commander in his absence.
2. Supervise firing positions and operation of fire direction center.
3. Screen fire requests from forward observers and supported units.
4. Supervise forward displacements.
5. Maintain an adequate supply of ammunition at gun positions.
6. Supervise administrative details of supply, evacuation of casualties from position, reorganization, and transportation.
7. Establish security at gun positions in coordination with supported units.

C. **Duties of platoon sergeant.**

1. Assist assistant platoon commander as directed.
2. Establish and operate fire direction center.
3. Supervise occupation of firing positions and establishment of communication net.
4. Control covering squad(s) during forward displacement.
5. Organize security for firing positions.

D. **Duties of section leader.**

1. Direct preparation and occupation of firing position.
2. Direct preparation of alternate and supplementary positions, when selected.
3. Supervise registration of section and issue fire orders received from fire direction center.

4. Maintain an adequate supply of ammunition readily available.

E. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Move squad to assigned firing position and select exact location for mortar.
2. Direct preparation and occupation of mortar position.
3. Issue fire orders received from section leader.
4. Insure an adequate supply of ammunition for mortar and provide for proper storage.

II. DEFENSE.

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Coordinate with other supporting weapons and arms and infantry units to assist company commander in preparation and execution of coordinated fire plan.
2. Recommend locations of barrage for each mortar and concentrations forward of MLR and within the position.
3. Locate alternate and supplementary positions, and issue instructions for their occupation.
4. Instruct personnel in signals for final protective fires.
5. Register barrages and concentrations forward of MLR.

B. **Duties of assistant platoon commander, platoon sergeant, section leader and squad leader.** Perform generally the same duties as on offense.

Section 12

SUPPORTING ARMS

I. **GENERAL.** Supporting arms consist of those weapons which are not organic to the small infantry unit, but which, through use of liaison personnel and observers may be requested to aid in an operation.

II. **LIAISON.**

A. **Artillery.**

1. Infantry regiment. Artillery liaison section represents direct support artillery battalion.
2. Infantry battalion. Artillery liaison section comes from a battery of direct support artillery battalion.
3. Infantry company. Artillery forward observer team comes from a battery of direct support artillery battalion.

B. **Tactical air.**

1. Tactical Air Control Party is organic to communications platoon of infantry battalion.
2. Tactical air is coordinated by Air Liaison Officer or Forward Air Controller of TACP.

C. **Naval gunfire.**

1. Shore Fire Control Party is organic to communications platoon of infantry battalion.
2. Naval gunfire is coordinated by Naval Gunfire Liaison Officer or Naval Gunfire Spotter of SFCP.

D. **Heavy mortars.** 4.2″ mortars are organic to infantry regiment and are coordinated through 4.2″ mortar forward observer at infantry battalion.

III. REQUESTS. DUTIES OF LEADERS.

A. For initial fire request, give location of target.
   1. For artillery, naval gunfire or mortars, give map coordinates; shift from known location (azimuth from observer to target must be given); or verbal description.
   2. For air support give map coordinates and/or verbal description relative to plane and its line of flight and/or artillery or mortar marking rounds.

B. **Adjusting fire.**
   1. For artillery, naval gunfire or mortars give azimuth from observer to target and make shifts left or right to the observer-target line and shifts, add or drop, along the observer-target line to obtain a bracket.
   2. For air support, make adjustments by verbal description from point of view of aircraft and its line of flight.

C. Sample initial fire request.

I am Platoon Sgt Able Co
Fire mission
Azimuth, 2500
Coordinates, 3180Love2
Troops in open
Will adjust

Section 13

AMPHIBIOUS OPERATIONS

I. PREEMBARKATION.

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Train troops and NCO's on basic tactics of amphibious operations.
2. Brief them on all available information on forthcoming operation.
3. Inspect weapons and equipment.
4. Supervise marking of platoon equipment.
5. Instruct men in life aboard ship.
6. Make recommendations for landing craft and landing vehicle assignment tables.

B. **Duties of squad leader.** Inspect men for proper clothing and equipment for the operation and brief them on life aboard ship.

C. **Duties of fire team leader.**

1. Insure that fire team attends all periods of training and give additional instruction if necessary.
2. Instruct fire team on life aboard ship.
3. Have fire team ready for embarkation.

II. EMBARKATION AND MOVEMENT TO OBJECTIVE AREA.

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Supervise embarkation.
2. Inspect troop compartment.

3. Instruct troops on ship's regulations.
4. Conduct schools and physical training.
5. Orient boat team commanders and NCO's as to landing diagram and instruct them on duties, debarkation inspection, routes to debarkation stations, and abandon ship stations.
6. Supervise platoon during ship's drills.
7. Issue order and orient platoon on the operation.
8. Insure proper care, cleaning and security of weapons.
9. Insure that compartments are properly policed and that personnel observe proper shipboard habits.

B. **Duties of boat team commander.**

1. Muster boat team in assembly area and assign boat team guide and man to carry boat sign.
2. Check route from assigned assembly area to debarkation station.
3. Insure that lowering and lashing lines are available.

C. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Assign bunks and supervise stowage of individual gear and equipment.
2. Inspect squad area.
3. Hold physical muster.
4. Enforce all ship's regulations.
5. Assist in conducting schools and physical training.
6. Report all discrepancies in ship's facilities to platoon sergeant.
7. Supervise police of squad area.

8. Supervise proper care, cleaning and security of squad weapons.
9. Insure proper conduct and appearance of squad at all times.

D. **Duties of fire team leader.**

1. Inspect assigned troop area and supervise stowage of individual gear and equipment.
2. Enforce all ship's regulations.
3. Instruct members of fire team in their specific duties afloat and ashore and assist squad leader in all rehearsals.
4. Insure proper care, cleaning and security of unit weapons.

III. DEBARKATION.

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Inspect platoon for debarkation.
2. Carry out duties of boat team commander.
3. Inform yourself of location of wave commander in wave formation.
4. Organize your platoon after landing, carry out initial mission, and contact company commander.

B. **Duties of boat team commander.**

1. Muster and inspect boat team in assembly area and form them at proper debarkation station in the order in which they will debark.
2. Supervise debarkation of personnel and placement of personnel in landing vehicle or craft.
3. Insure that crew-served weapons and heavy equipment are properly lowered by boat team personnel.

4. Supervise displaying of boat sign and check with coxswain on landing diagram.
5. Upon crossing line of departure, lower boat sign and issue standby order to your boat team.

C. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Inspect arms and equipment of squad to insure readiness for debarkation, and muster squad, properly equipped, in assigned assembly area.
2. Assist boat team commander in debarkation and placement of personnel in landing vehicle or craft.
3. Lead squad out of landing vehicle or craft, organize it, and carry out initial mission.
4. Contact platoon commander as soon as possible.

D. **Duties of fire team leader.**

1. Assemble fire team, properly equipped, in assembly area on order of squad leader.
2. Debark fire team on order and supervise placement of your personnel in landing vehicle or craft.

Section 14

HELICOPTER OPERATIONS

DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. PRIOR TO THE OPERATION.

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Familiarize yourself with emplanement diagram and schedule.
2. Train troops and NCO's on basic tactics of helicopter operations.
3. Brief them on forthcoming operation.
4. Conduct embarkation and debarkation drills.
5. Make recommendations for helicopter assignment tables.
6. Inspect weapons and supervise packing and marking of platoon equipment.
7. Familiarize yourself with methods of preparing landing sites, and assisting landings if necessary.
   a. Select flat surface sufficient for rotor clearance.
   b. Assist landing by indicating wind direction with smoke or cloth, or by placing man with back to wind facing landing spot to direct by arm signals.
   c. Light borders of site or direct by flashlight if at night.

B. **Duties of squad leader.** Inspect squad for proper clothing and equipment for operation.

C. **Duties of fire team leader.**

1. Insure that men attend all periods of instruction and give additional instruction, if necessary.
2. Have men ready for emplanement.

II. EMBARKATION AND MOVEMENT TO OBJECTIVE AREA (IF AMPHIBIOUS).

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Supervise embarkation.
2. Inspect troop compartment.
3. Instruct troops on ship's regulations.
4. Orient heliteam commanders and NCO's on emplanement diagram and instruct them on duties, routes to emplanement stations and abandon ship stations.
5. Conduct schools and physical training.
6. Orient platoon on operation and issue order.
7. Insure proper police of platoon area and care, cleaning and security of weapons.

B. **Duties of heliteam commander.**

1. Muster heliteam in assembly area.
2. Check route from assigned assembly area to emplanement station.

C. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Assign bunks and supervise stowage of individual gear and equipment.
2. Inspect squad area.
3. Hold physical muster.
4. Enforce all ship's regulations.
5. Assist in schools and physical training.

6. Report all discrepancies in ship's facilities to platoon sergeant.
7. Supervise police of squad area and care, cleaning and security of weapons.

D. **Duties of fire team leader.**

1. Assist squad leader in his duties.
2. Instruct fire team members in their specific duties afloat and ashore.

III. EMPLANEMENT.

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Supervise loading of cargo.
   a. Assign positions to cargo handlers to insure expeditious loading and unloading.
   b. Check load limits.
   c. Insure that cargo is loaded forward to aft, with heavy gear at center of gravity.
   d. Emphasize speed in loading and unloading, consistent with safety and security.
2. Inspect troops for emplanement.
3. Carry out duties of heliteam commander.
4. Inform yourself of location of helicopter commander in helicopter formation.
5. Organize platoon after landing, carry out initial mission and contact company commander.
6. Prepare landing sites if necessary.

B. **Duties of heliteam commander.**

1. Muster and inspect heliteam members in assembly area and form them at proper emplanement station in order in which they will emplane.
2. Supervise emplanement of personnel, including fastening of safety belts.

3. Man helicopter interphone.
4. Maintain helicopter discipline.

C. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Inspect arms and equipment of squad to insure readiness for emplanement.
2. Muster squad, properly equipped, in assigned assembly area.
3. Assist heliteam commander in emplanement and placement of personnel in helicopters.
4. Lead squad out of helicopter and carry out initial mission.
5. Contact platoon commander as soon as possible.

D. **Duties of fire team leader.**

1. Assemble fire team, properly equipped, in assembly area on order of squad leader.
2. Emplane fire team on order and supervise placement of your personnel in helicopter.
3. Lead fire team out of helicopter and carry out initial mission.

Section 15

NIGHT ATTACKS
DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. **MISSIONS.** Night attacks are made to exploit a success, to capture important terrain for future use, to avoid heavy losses that might be incurred in daylight, and to gain the element of surprise.

II. **CHARACTERISTICS.** Night attacks offer exceptional opportunities for success by their surprise and shock to the defender, despite the difficulty of control at night. The disadvantage of control difficulties can be offset by aggressive leadership, careful planning, thorough training and rehearsal.

III. **DUTIES OF PLATOON COMMANDER.**

A. Alert platoon by issuing warning order.

B. Contact adjacent and supporting unit leaders for coordination concerning contact, support fires and hasty defense.

C. Make reconnaissance; look for forward assembly area, line of departure, platoon release point, squad release points, routes forward, probable line of deployment, landmarks and critical terrain features, obstacles, distinguishing features of the objective, possible enemy positions, and positions of adjacent and supporting units.

D. Issue detailed order to subordinates.

E. Conduct rehearsal if possible.

F. Control platoon through subordinate leaders until objective is taken.

G. Establish hasty defense.

H. Make what reconnaissance is possible to coordinate hasty defense.

I. Plan for future action.

IV. DUTIES OF SQUAD LEADER.

A. Contact adjacent squad leaders to coordinate contact, maintenance of direction, rate of movement, and tie-in of hasty defense on objective.

B. Make reconnaissance to orient yourself to terrain mentioned in platoon commander's order, and look for routes forward of squad release point and obstacles in path of your squad.

C. Supervise squad in pre-attack preparation, including orientation of fire team leaders and checking of equipment.

D. Issue order.

E. Control squad during movement.

F. Pay particular attention to hasty defense once objective has been taken.

G. Report to platoon commander as soon as possible, stating situation, casualties, and other pertinent information.

V. DUTIES OF FIRE TEAM LEADER.

A. Make reconnaissance of terrain to orient yourself and to locate terrain features mentioned in squad leader's order.

B. Issue order.

C. Check weapons, ammunition and equipment of your men.

D. Lead your men in the attack, coordinate and control their fires, and quickly organize hasty defense when objective is taken.

E. Reorganize your fire team.

Section 16

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. ATTACK OF A FORTIFIED POSITION.

A. **Characteristics of a fortified position.** Depending upon its extent and depth, a fortified position may be a fortified locality, line or zone. These defensive works are composed of a number of emplacements positioned so as to be mutually supporting. The emplacements are further strengthened by use of obstacles, extensive camouflage, supporting infantry in field fortifications and a highly coordinated defensive fire plan.

B. **Method of attack.** The basic principles involved in the attack of a fortified position are the same as for any other attack. The main differences as compared with any other type attack are the requirement for special training and equipment, thorough preparation and rehearsal, and assignment of narrow frontages and limited objectives to attacking units.

C. **Size of units.** The rifle squad is usually the unit assigned to reduce a single enemy emplacement, its obstacles and its supporting infantry, but is assigned only one such position at a time. The platoon may

have one or more squads employed in reducing emplacements at any one time.

D. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Make reconnaissance.
   a. Locate all enemy emplacements that could fire on your unit during attack and determine their fields of fire.
   b. Locate embrasures, vents and exits, and determine types of weapons housed.
   c. Locate supporting infantry and obstacles.
   d. Determine positions for supporting direct fire weapons.
   e. Locate defiladed approaches into enemy position.
2. Request additional support and equipment, as needed, from the company commander.
3. After your requests have been acted upon, bring plan up to date.
4. Issue detailed order to include:
   a. Breaching and clearing obstacles.
      (1) Use of supporting weapons and demolitions.
      (2) Clearing mines and breaching wire.
   b. Elimination of enemy infantry.
      (1) Use of supporting weapons.
      (2) Use of individual weapons.
   c. Destruction of emplacements.
      (1) Use of supporting weapons.
      (2) Use of flame throwers and demolitions.
      (3) Search of emplacement.
      (4) Preparation to continue attack.

5. Hold rehearsals, if possible, after giving order, to insure understanding of mission by all members of unit.
6. During attack, direct use of attached weapons and coordinate movements of units.
7. Upon completing mission, notify company commander of situation and make preparations to continue advance.
8. When acting as reserve platoon, be prepared to support maneuvering elements by fire and to assume mission of attacking element(s) on order.

E. **Duties of squad leader.** Perform generally the same duties, on squad level, as those of platoon commander on platoon level.

F. **Duties of fire team leader.**

1. Fire team as base of fire.
   a. Control fire of your fire team.
   b. Provide for protection of attached and supporting unit personnel in your vicinity.
   c. Prepare to replace crew members of attached or supporting weapons in event of casualties.
2. Fire team as maneuver element.
   a. Provide protection for flame thrower and demolition personnel moving with your fire team.
   b. Prepare to replace flame thrower operators and demolitionists in event of casualties.
   c. Direct breaching of obstacles and employment of demolitions within your fire team when moving without attached demolitionists.

G. **Duties of rocket team leader.**

1. Place fire on targets as directed by leader of squad to which attached.
2. Make recommendations concerning employment of your weapons.
3. Keep leader of squad to which attached informed of your personnel and ammunition status.
4. Assume antimechanized role if so directed.

H. **Duties of flame thrower team leader.** Perform generally the same duties as those of rocket team leader.

II. COMBAT IN BUILT-UP AREAS.

A. **Characteristics.**

1. Presence of many potential targets.
2. Limited observation and fields of fire.
3. Ready-made fire lanes and killing zones.
4. Restricted and canalized movement.
5. Limited effective use of supporting weapons by attacker.
6. Limited mass attack by attacker.
7. Decentralization of attacker's control.

B. **Offense.**

1. Duties of platoon commander.
   a. Attacking platoon.
      (1) Confer with adjacent unit commanders to coordinate killing zones in streets and alleys, and with supporting unit commanders for recommended employment of their units.
      (2) Plan detailed reconnaissance.

(3) Select an OP and send for subordinates and attached unit leaders (runner and platoon sergeant should be with platoon commander).

(4) Make reconnaissance to determine relative positions of buildings, entry into buildings, covering party position and relative position of yourself and platoon sergeant.

(5) Formulate plan to include:

(a) Mission for each squad and supporting weapons.

(b) Instructions for capture of first critical building.

(c) Complete coordination, to be understood by all.

(d) Method of communication (preferably visual).

(e) Formation. Usually two squads forward, one on each side of street; and one back, covering advance of forward squads.

(6) Issue order to subordinate and attached unit leaders.

(7) Supervise execution of order, insuring that attack is executed with boldness, speed and shock effect.

(8) If time permits, conduct rehearsal of attack on terrain similar to objective.

(9) As attack progresses, select next objective (building) to be attacked (nearest, tallest, or most critical).

(10) Notify company commander when final objective is secured and await further orders.

b. Reserve platoon.

(1) Support attacking element(s) by fire.

(2) Be prepared to assume mission of attacking element(s) if directed.

2. Duties of squad leader.

a. Attacking squad.

(1) Insure that lines with grappling hooks, demolitions and a large quantity of hand grenades are on hand, if available.

(2) Assign fire team(s) as searching party to clear assigned objective.

(3) Assign fire team(s) as covering party to cover advance of searching party by establishing killing zones.

(4) Remain with covering party as it covers advance of searching party.

(5) Move with covering party into building after searching party signals building cleared.

(6) After clearing first building, continue attack in same manner, upon order from platoon commander.

(7) Advance squad from building to building through side yards, over roof tops, by breaching walls, or through back streets and alleys, making maximum use of cover.

b. Reserve squad.
   (1) Control fire of fire teams by assigning sectors of fire covering buildings, streets, and alleys and by using signals, preferably visual.
   (2) Move fire teams forward by echelon upon order of platoon commander.
   (3) Be prepared to assume mission of maneuvering element(s) on order.

3. Duties of fire team leader.
   a. Searching party.
      (1) Break fire team down into two buddy teams.
         (a) Search team consists of rifleman and assistant BAR man.
         (b) Covering team consists of FTL and BAR man.
      (2) Search out building.
         (a) Enter at top, if possible, to force enemy down and out.
         (b) If bottom entry is made, move rapidly to top and search down.
         (c) Systematically search each room of each floor, including attic and basement, preceding each entry with grenades, rifle fire or other shock action.
         (d) Have members of fire team sound off, "Coming in", "Clear", "Coming out", or "Coming down", as appropriate, during movement within building.
         (e) Mark all booby traps.

(f) Upon clearing building, mark it in prescribed manner at original point of entry.

b. Covering party

(1) Control fire of fire team as directed by squad leader.

(2) Cover searching party with fire and lay down killing zone fires along streets and alleys.

C. **Defense.** Comparable to defense of any battle position.

III. COLD WEATHER OPERATIONS.

A. **Prior to movement to arctic or subarctic area.**

1. Duties of platoon commander.
   a. Conduct school on climate, weather and geography.
   b. Supervise issue of special clothing and equipment, insuring proper fit, wearing and repair.
   c. Train troops in first aid peculiarities of arctic areas, stressing continuous inspection by all hands to prevent frostbite.
   d. Emphasize additional responsibilities of subordinate unit leaders.
2. Duties of squad leader.
   a. Assist platoon commander as directed.
   b. Conduct school on tactics, hygiene, first aid and clothing and equipment.
   c. Conduct physical conditioning.
3. Duties of fire team leader.
   a. Assist squad leader as directed.
   b. Divide fire team into "buddy teams".

B. **Movement to area.**

1. Duties of platoon commander.
   a. Continue orientation on mission and area of operations.
   b. Conduct daily inspections of clothing and equipment.
   c. Keep men active by training, exercise, and schools.
   d. Emphasize small unit tactics, teamwork and survival.
2. Duties of squad leader and fire team leader. Assist platoon commander by closely supervising your men.

C. **Arrival in area.**

1. Duties of platoon commander.
   a. Closely inspect all personnel prior to debarkation.
   b. Supervise construction of shelters (tentage, lean-tos, bunkers, or snowcaves).
   c. Conduct school on use of skis, snowshoes, sleds and methods of movement when necessary.
   d. Carefully supervise measures for preventing frostbite.
2. Duties of squad leader. Assist platoon commander by closely supervising your men.
3. Duties of fire team leader.
   a. Check men to insure all weapons, clothing, equipment and special gear are in order.
   b. Make frequent checks for frostbite.

Section 17

RETROGRADE MOVEMENTS

DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. GENERAL.

A. **Definition.** A retrograde movement is a troop movement to the rear or away from the enemy. It may be forced by the enemy or voluntary.

B. **Purpose.** To trade terrain for better terrain, for time, or for freedon of action.

II. WITHDRAWAL FROM ACTION.

A. **Definition.** The operation of breaking off combat with an enemy force, but maintaining contact through security elements.

B. **Night withdrawal.**

1. Duties of platoon commander.
   a. Alert subordinates, informing them as to when, why and to where your unit is withdrawing.
   b. Conduct reconnaissance to select platoon assembly area and route to company assembly area. (Must be easily identified during darkness.)
   c. Issue withdrawal order.
      (1) Include time or signal for movement.
      (2) Designate squad to remain as part of company covering force.

(3) Instruct covering force to simulate normal activity of platoon by spreading out across platoon front, retaining sufficient weapons for deception and maintaining normal radio communications.

(4) Designate platoon guide to control platoon assembly area until your arrival.

d. Accompany last element, exclusive of covering force, withdrawing from platoon position.

e. Check platoon at platoon assembly area, move it to company assembly area and report to company commander.

2. Duties of platoon sergeant. Control squad which remains as part of company covering force.

3. Duties of squad leader.

a. Conduct reconnaissance to select squad assembly area and route to platoon assembly area.

b. Issue withdrawal order, including plan for moving squad to squad assembly area.

c. Move squad to platoon assembly area and report to platoon guide.

C. **Daylight withdrawal.**

1. Duties of platoon commander. Perform generally the same duties as in night withdrawal, with following exceptions:

a. Conduct such reconnaissance as time permits to select platoon assembly area behind reserve platoon and to determine route to

company assembly area (must be concealed but easily identified).

b. Conduct withdrawal as thinning-out of lines, similar to fire and maneuver in reverse.

c. Have one squad cover other two squads' movement to rear, when possible. (Front-line platoons withdraw under cover of reserve platoon.)

d. Insure that automatic weapons are last to leave squad area.

2. Duties of squad leader. Perform generally the same duties as in night withdrawal.

III. **DELAYING ACTION.** Consists of limited defense or counter-attack, which seeks to delay superior enemy, and subsequent movement to rear (withdrawal).

IV. **RETIREMENT.** A march to rear commencing when there is no enemy contact or when only security forces are in contact. Normal security on the march should be employed.

Section 18

RAIDS

DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. GENERAL.

A. **Definition.** A raid is a sudden attack, usually by a small force having no intention of holding the terrain invaded.

B. **Purpose.** A raid may be made to capture prisoners, kill personnel, or destroy railroads, tunnels, bridges, equipment and important installations.

C. **Characteristics.**

1. Detailed planning.
2. Rehearsals.
3. Aggressive and well-timed execution.
4. Withdrawal of raiding force after mission is accomplished.

II. DUTIES OF RAIDING PARTY LEADER.

A. Perform generally the same duties as those of combat patrol leader.

B. In addition, perform following duties:

1. Make thorough reconnaissance. In coordination with higher authority, send out patrol, if necessary, to reconnoiter approaches to enemy lines and routes of withdrawal.
2. Request necessary special weapons and equipment.

3. Be prepared to overcome barbed wire entanglements, mines and other obstacles, when raid is to be made against well-organized position.
4. Know plan for supporting fires to protect your flanks and cover your withdrawal.
5. Designate assault and support parties.
6. Conduct rehearsals on ground similar to area to be raided, when possible.
7. Coordinate actions of all elements of raiding party.
8. Call for, shift, or lift supporting and protective fires, as necessary.
9. After accomplishing mission, check personnel at rally point and conduct withdrawal.
10. After return, report results of raid to higher authority.

III. DUTIES OF ASSAULT PARTY LEADER.

A. Eliminate hostile resistance enroute to objective.

B. Furnish frontal protection for raiding party while on objective.

C. Cover withdrawal.

IV. DUTIES OF SUPPORT PARTY LEADER.

A. Furnish flank protection for raiding party.

B. Attack unexpected resistance.

C. Guard prisoners.

D. If mission is to capture prisoners, assign specific teams to take prisoners.

E. Remove or destroy enemy materiel.

F. Search for information of intelligence value.

Section 19

TANK-INFANTRY COORDINATION

I. **GENERAL.** When tanks and infantry are operating together, maximum success will result if they are employed so that the capabilities of one will offset the limitations of the other. Careful consideration of the limitations and capabilities of tanks and infantry and close coordination between tank and infantry leaders are necessary.

II. **PRELIMINARY COORDINATING PROCEDURE BY LEADER OF UNIT TO WHICH TANKS ARE ASSIGNED.**

A. Brief tank unit commander on known enemy AT defenses.

B. Plan and conduct reconnaissance with tank unit leader.

C. Discuss general plan of action and method of employing tanks with tank unit leader.

1. Tanks and infantry may attack from same direction (easiest method to control and quickest to employ).
2. Tanks and infantry may attack objective from different directions (divides enemy defensive fires and allows tanks to more fully exploit their capabilities).

3. Tanks may support infantry attack by fire alone (least desirable method; does not fully exploit tanks' capabilities).

D. Tactical situation permitting, have tank unit leader and his subordinate leaders present when issuing order.

III. PROCEDURE FOR DIRECTING OF TANK FIRES BY INFANTRY LEADER.

A. May use radio, tank-infantry telephone, tracers, pyrotechnics or arm and hand signals.

B. Include following information concerning target:

1. Range (in hundreds of yards).
2. Direction (using clock system, in which bow of tank hull represents 12 o'clock).
3. Description.
4. Observation (whether or not you can observe the fall of shot).

Section 20

LAND MINE WARFARE
DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. INSTALLATION OF MINE FIELD.

A. Duties of platoon commander.

1. Supervise entire operation.
2. Report following to higher authority:
   a. Location and extent of field.
   b. Time work is begun.
   c. Number and type of mines to be laid.
   d. Data on lanes.
   e. Estimated time of completion.
3. Indicate trace of field and marking fence.
4. Establish dumps for mines and materials.
5. Designate landmarks and intermediate markers, if applicable.
6. Indicate density of field and pattern to be used.
7. Indicate location and marking of lanes, if applicable.
8. Verify completed records and report completion of laying.

B. Duties of platoon sergeant.

1. Assist in supervising entire operation.
2. Designate number and location of booby-trapped mines, if any, to laying party NCO.

3. Have siting party lay traffic tapes for safe passage of personnel.
4. Keep record of mines initially in dumps and verify arming by collecting safety pins or clips from laying party NCO.
5. Have safety devices buried one foot to rear of strip marker at one end of strip.
6. Reassign personnel as jobs are completed.
7. Supervise removal of all tapes.
8. Have field correctly camouflaged and debris removed.

C. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Normally supervise one laying party.
2. Designate locations of mines by pacing.
3. Direct fuzing procedures.
4. Direct burying and camouflaging of mines.
5. Direct arming procedure, paying particular attention to arming those mines furthest away from safety tape.
6. Collect and verify count of safety pins or clips.
7. Reassign personnel as needed.

D. **Duties of fire team leader.**

1. Will normally be in charge of siting party, marking party or recording party.
2. If in laying party, direct mine layers under supervision of squad leader.

II. REMOVAL OF MINES.

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Supervise entire operation.
2. Establish local security as needed.
3. Indicate method of detection and removal.

4. Indicate method of lane marking.
5. Report completion of mission to higher authority, with overlap if desired.

B. **Duties of platoon sergeant. Platoon vehicle lane breaching.**

1. Act as advance party commander.
2. Trace lane to be breached.

C. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Platoon vehicle lane breaching.
   a. Supervise one probing party.
   b. Maintain direction and keep proper distance between men.
   c. Assist probers in neutralization of mines, as required.
2. Pathfinder (patrol).
   a. Assign duties to squad members.
   b. Establish local security as necessary.
   c. Maintain direction of pathfinder and prescribe marking of path.
   d. Make decision on handling of mines.
   e. Report completion and location of path as required.
3. Mine eradication. Designate and supervise method of disposal.

D. **Duties of fire team leader.** Work on all phases as directed by squad leader.

Section 21

FIELD FORTIFICATIONS
DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. GENERAL.

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Fix locations of combat emplacements.
2. Specify priority of work on position to include:
   a. Clearing fields of fire.
   b. Laying AT mines.
   c. Providing communication and observation systems.
   d. Preparing individual shelters and weapons emplacements.
   e. Preparing obstacles.
   f. Preparing routes for movement of reserves.
   g. Supply.
   h. Evacuation.
   i. Camouflage.

B. **Duties of squad leader.**

1. Supervise work in prescribed priority.
2. Designate directions, widths and lengths that fields of fire are to be cleared.
3. Insure that machine gun fire lanes are cleared to limits of final protective lines.

C. **Duties of fire team leader.**

1. Indicate locations and types of emplacements to be constructed by fire team members.

2. Supervise clearing of fields of fire for fire team.
3. Insure that underbrush, small trees and lower limbs of large trees are cut down and disposed of.
4. Supervise camouflage measures, including careful removal of all spoil, use of natural and artificial camouflage materials and use of background.

II. ENTRENCHMENTS AND EMPLACEMENTS.

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Insure that locations and construction of entrenchments and emplacements are sound from tactical and construction standpoint.
2. Site fighting holes primarily for good fields of fire, with concealment as secondary consideration.
3. Enforce camouflage discipline.

B. **Duties of squad leader.** Supervise construction and initiate work to improve positions, such as installing overhead cover; digging rabbit holes, storage and sleeping spaces; providing for drainage; and construction of alternate and supplementary positions within squad area.

C. **Duties of fire team leader.** Assist squad leader by supervising your fire team in its tasks.

III. OBSTACLES.

A. **Duties of platoon commander.**

1. Site tactical wire along friendly side of FPL's.
2. Direct installation of protective wire to front, flanks and rear of platoon position.

3. Indicate direction, type and extent of supplementary wire which may be installed to conceal line of tactical wire and direction of FPL's, and to connect platoon and company defense areas.
4. Insure that wire entanglements and other obstacles are covered by observation and fire, protected by AP mines and warning devices, laid out to avoid regular geometric patterns, concealed if possible, coordinated with other elements of defense, used in sufficient quantity, and installed in depth.

B. **Duties of squad leader and fire team leader.** Supervise and assist in construction of obstacles as specified by platoon commander.

Section 22

LOGISTICS AND SUPPLY ECONOMY

I. **GENERAL.** In order for your unit to operate at maximum effectiveness, necessary equipment must be on hand and in serviceable condition, and certain essential supplies, such as ammunition, food, water and clothing, must be available in adequate quantity to insure success of the mission with the least possible hardship upon the individual. It is your responsibility as a leader to insure that your unit's equipment is in a high state of readiness at all times, that the needs of your men are provided insofar as possible and that your men take care of their equipment.

II. CARE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT.

A. **General.** While accountability of property may not be as stringent during combat, your responsibility for protection from loss or damage still continues.

B. **Duties of leaders.**

1. Insure by frequent inspections that required clothing and equipment are on hand and in serviceable condition.
2. Insure that clothing is as clean as circumstances permit.
3. Improvise facilities for cleaning clothing, when possible.

4. Insure that footwear is properly cared for and repaired when necessary.
5. Insure by frequent inspections that weapons, spare parts, and equipment are kept in a high state of readiness.
6. Insure men have gear to clean weapons (oil, patches, bore cleaner).
7. Prevent use of helmets as seats, shovels, or cooking utensils.

III. CONSERVATION AND SALVAGE.

A. **General.** Proper measures of conservation and salvage permit maximum utilization of available supplies and equipment.

B. **Duties of leaders.**

1. Know SOP for salvage.
2. Impress upon men importance of conservation.
3. Establish stringent measures to prevent theft, misappropriation, or unauthorized discarding of clothing or equipment.
4. Require men to make minor repairs to clothing, such as mending tears and sewing on buttons, when possible.
5. Survey items needing replacement.
6. Insure recovery of weapons, ammunition and vital equipment from casualties, when practicable.
7. Turn in clothing, equipment and supplies not needed, when practicable.

IV. POLICE OF AREA.

A. **General.** Police of your area is necessary to prevent disease, maintain morale and avoid giving

information concerning your unit to enemy intelligence agencies.

B. **Duties of leaders.**

1. Construct adequate head facilities whenever possible.
2. When leaving area, police entire area thoroughly and close and mark heads.
3. Insure men destroy cigarette butts and bury ration cans.
4. Assign police duties equitably.

V. SUPPLY IN COMBAT—DUTIES OF LEADERS.

A. **Food and water.**

1. Enforce water discipline as necessary.
2. Insure equitable distribution of rations.
3. Insure equitable distribution of comfort and convenience items and gratuitous issues which may become available (beer, cigarettes, toilet articles, stationery).
4. Keep higher echelon informed of needs.

B. **Ammunition.**

1. Keep informed at all times of status of ammunition supply of your unit.
2. Make timely requests for resupply.
3. Redistribute ammunition when necessary.
4. Enforce fire discipline to conserve ammunition.

Section 23

ABC WARFARE

DUTIES OF LEADERS

I. ATOMIC WARFARE.

A. Prior to enemy attack.

1. Duties of platoon commander.
   a. Prepare men tactically and psychologically for atomic warfare.
   b. Instruct men on types and effects of atomic bursts.
   c. Instruct men on use of cover for protection from heat, blast, and nuclear radiation (foxholes with overhead cover, bunkers, culverts and emplacements), stressing importance of protection from intense heat.
   d. Instruct men to hit the deck face downward if cover is not immediately available.
   e. Coordinate with ABC personnel on equipment and training.
2. Duties of squad leader.
   a. Instruct men in preparation of covered positions.
   b. If squad is assigned as monitoring party, ascertain that men are properly trained in use of radiac instruments.

c. During patrolling, be alert for following possible indications of planned enemy atomic attack:
   (1) Appearance of special equipment and clothing.
   (2) Unusual movement or withdrawals from forward areas.
   (3) Wide gaps in positions.
   (4) Abnormal digging-in.
   (5) Registration of heavy artillery with high air burst.

B. **During attack.**
1. Duties of platoon commander.
   a. Take appropriate protective measures.
   b. Report azimuth and height of burst.
2. Duties of squad leader.
   a. Take appropriate protective measures.

C. **After attack.**
1. Duties of platoon commander.
   a. Prepare to continue mission.
   b. Determine casualties.
   c. Reorganize unit if necessary.
   d. Report situation to company commander.
   e. Organize monitoring parties if necessary.
   f. If ordered to proceed through contaminated areas, move rapidly.
2. Duties of squad leader.
   a. Reorganize and continue with mission.
   b. When directed, conduct monitoring.
   c. Watch continuously for signs of radiation sickness in men after attack (vomiting, nausea, bloody diarrhea, fever and shock).
   d. Have squad wear protective masks.

II. BIOLOGICAL WARFARE.

A. **Prior to enemy attack.**

1. Duties of platoon commander.
   a. Instruct men in special hygiene and sanitation measures.
   b. Require men to receive specified inoculations, shots and other preventive measures.
   c. Provide men with serviceable protective masks.
   d. If special clothing is not available, insure that personnel wear regular clothing properly.
2. Duties of squad leader.
   a. Insure men practice strict personal hygiene and field sanitation.
   b. Require men to fasten shirt and jacket collars, roll down sleeves, button cuffs, tuck trousers in boots and tie down other clothes.
   c. Check masks for serviceability.
   d. Permit men to eat and drink only approved food and water.
   e. Insure that any open cuts or sores are bandaged.

B. **During attack.**

1. Duties of platoon commander.
   a. Be alert for following possible indications of BW attack:
      (1) Aircraft dropping or spraying unknown substances.
      (2) New and unusual types of shells or bombs. particularly those which burst with little or no blast.

(3) Smoke and mists of unknown nature.
(4) Unusual substances and containers on ground.

b. Inform company commander of above indications immediately.

c. Insure men wear protective masks.

2. Duties of squad leader. Require men to wear masks.

C. **After attack.**

1. Duties of platoon commander.
   a. Supervise decontamination measures.
   b. Insure men avoid restricted areas.
   c. Observe men for sickness (probably will not occur for several days).
2. Duties of squad leader.
   a. Observe men for sickness.
   b. Require men to scrub bodies and clothing with soap and water.
   c. Boil food and water for at least ten minutes, if not sealed.

III. CHEMICAL WARFARE. DUTIES OF PLATOON COMMANDER.

A. **Prior to enemy attack.**

1. Determine coordination plans for defense against chemical agents.
2. Provide men with masks and other protective and detection equipment.
3. Coordinate with ABC personnel for training in use of protective and detection equipment, decontamination, self-protection and first aid methods.

4. Insure men are trained in use of atropine syrettes for nerve gas (G-agents) poisoning.

B. **During attack.**

1. Sound alarm.
2. Have men don masks quickly.
3. Move men upwind and away from smoke and spray, if possible.

C. **After attack.**

1. Require that masks be worn until definite danger is passed.
2. Reorganize and continue mission.
3. Begin first aid and remove casualties.
4. Require men to remove and decontaminate clothing, if needed.
5. Insure men decontaminate weapons, equipment, and living area.

APPENDIX A

CHARACTERISTICS OF INFANTRY WEAPONS

Weapon	Weight (lbs.)	Max. rate of fire (rds. per minute)	Sustained rate of fire (rds. per min.)	Approx. max. effective range (in yards)	Effective bursting area (yds.)	Armor penetration
PISTOL, M1911A1	2.4	21–28	10	25		
U. S. RIFLE, M1	9.5	16–32	16	500		
w/Launcher & Energa Grenade.				100		8″ (0° obliquity)
BROWNING AUTOMATIC RIFLE, cal. .30 M1918A2 (complete).	19.4	350–550 (cyclic)	40–60	500		
HEAVY MACHINE GUN, cal. .30 M1917A1 w/ M1917A1 tripod & water.	94.2	450–600 (cyclic)	125	2,000		
w/M74 tripod & water	68.9					
LIGHT MACHINE GUN, cal. .30 M1919A4 w/M2 tripod.	49.75	400–550 (cyclic)	60	2,000		
w/M74 tripod	60.5					
HEAVY MACHINE GUN cal. .50, HB, M2 on Ground Mount M3.	124	400–600 (cyclic)	60	2,000 4,000 w/scope		1″ at 100 yards

3.5" ROCKET LAUNCHER M20B1.	12.5	8	4	Point targets 300; moving targets 150.	20 (HEAT)	11" (0° obliquity)
PORTABLE FLAME-THROWER M2A1.	68–72 (full)	----------	8 to 9 seconds	Thickened fuel 45; liquid fuel 20.	----------	
60MM MORTAR M2, w/ Mount M5.	42	30 to 35	18	HE 1,000 WP 1,650 ILL 1, 100	11 (radius) 10 (radius)	
81MM MORTAR M1, w/ Mount M4.	119	30 to 35	18	HEL 2,000 HEH 2,000 WP 2,465 ILL 2,300	17 (radius) 20 (radius) 10 (radius) ----------	
4.2" MORTAR M30, w/ Mount M24.	626	20	5	HE 6,500 WP 4,260	15Dx45W 20 (radius)	
75MM RIFLE M20, w/ M74 Weapons Mount.	144	9	2	HE 2,100 HEAT 1,000 (moving target) WP 2,100	15Dx45W 0	4.5" (up to 30° obliquity).
90MM GUN T139 on Tank, Medium, M48.	90,000 (combat loaded)	10 to 15	3 to 4	HE 5,000 WP 5,000 HVAP 3,500	12Dx40W 0	7.8" at 30° obliquity; 10" at 0° (1,000 yds).

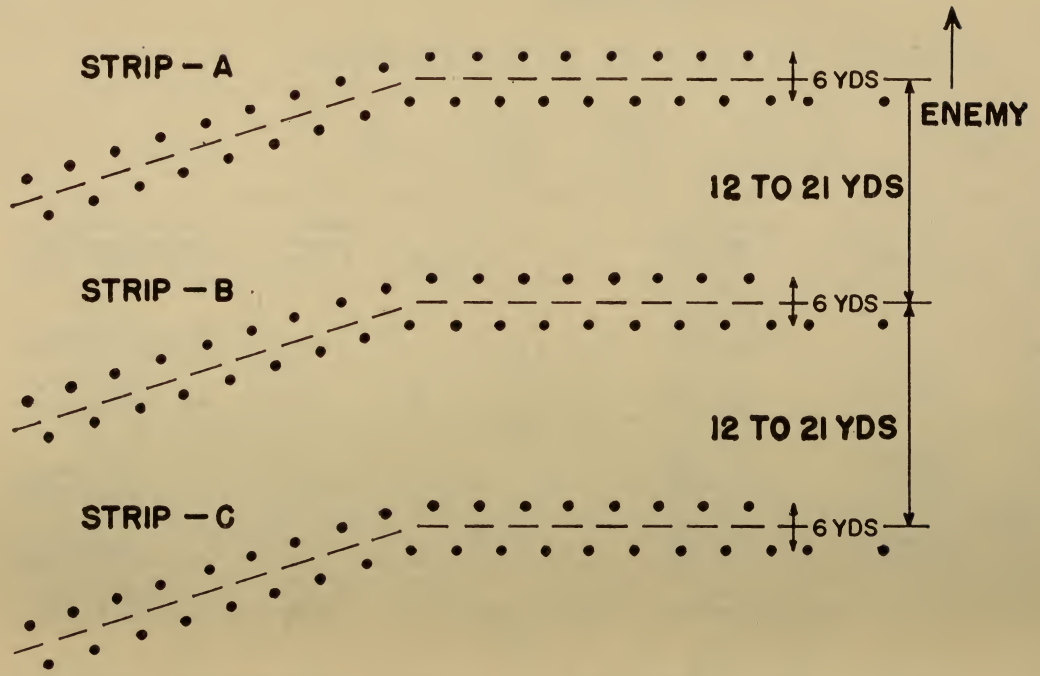

Figure 14.—Standard six-row AT minefield pattern.

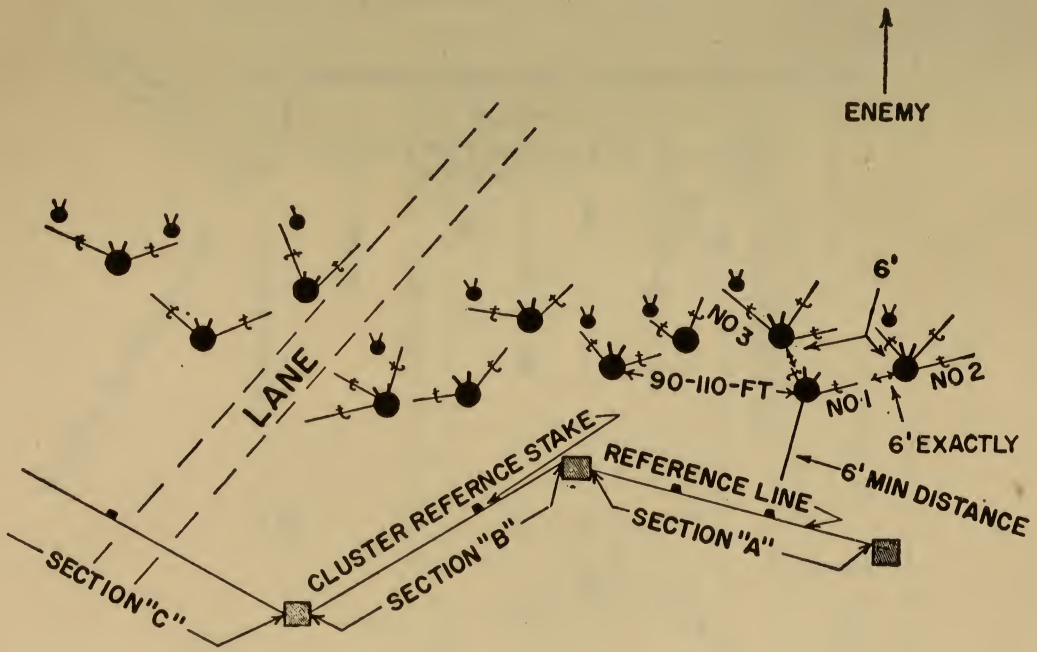

Figure 15.—Triangular pattern AP minefield.

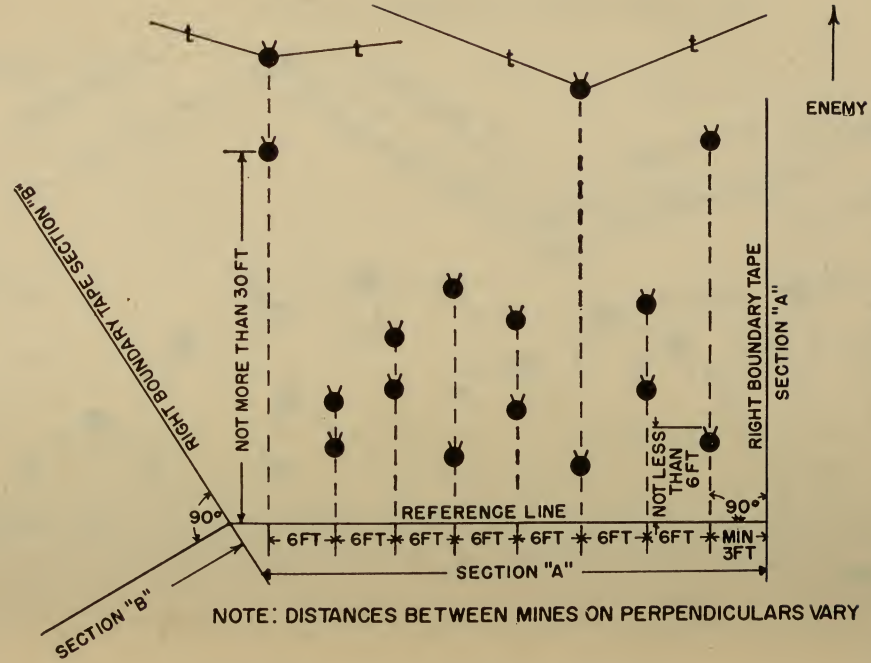

Figure 16.—Pressure pattern AP minefield.

APPENDIX C

Platoon organization for breaching 16-yard vehicle lane by probing method:

1. Platoon commander. Supervises and provides local security.
2. Advance party (platoon sergeant and two men). Lay out tapes to indicate starting and finishing points for probing parties.
3. Three probing parties (squad leader, eight probers and two lifters per party). Each prober is assigned one yard of frontage. Lifters follow probers and remove mines detected by probers.
4. Supply party (platoon guide and six men). Erect lane markers, lights and fences.

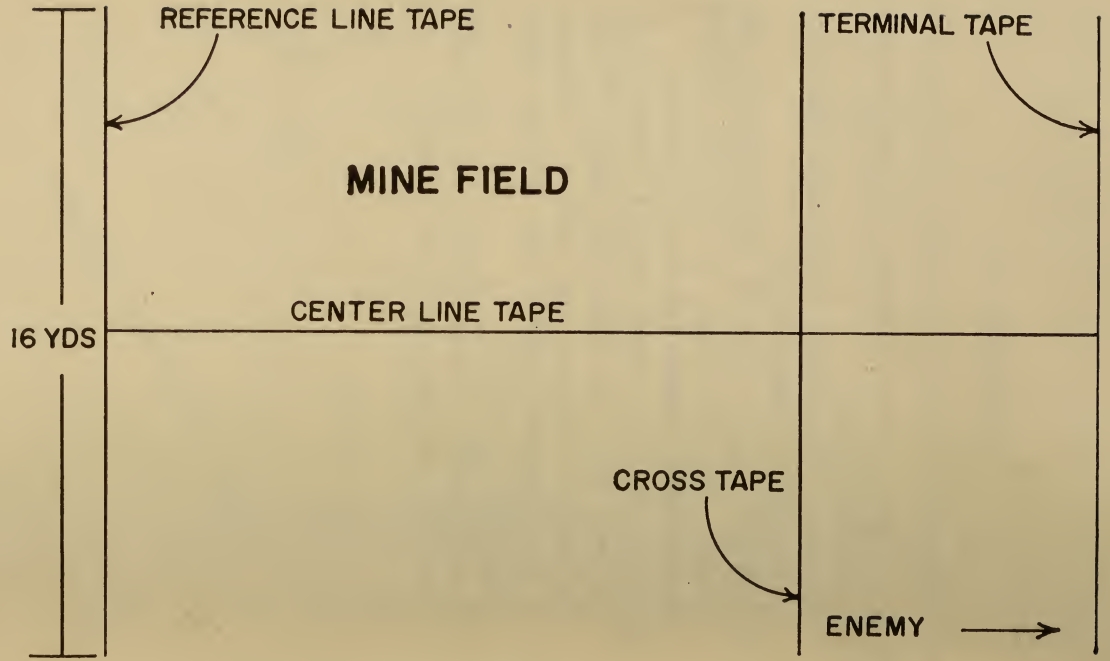

Figure 17.—Minefield lane marking—advance party.

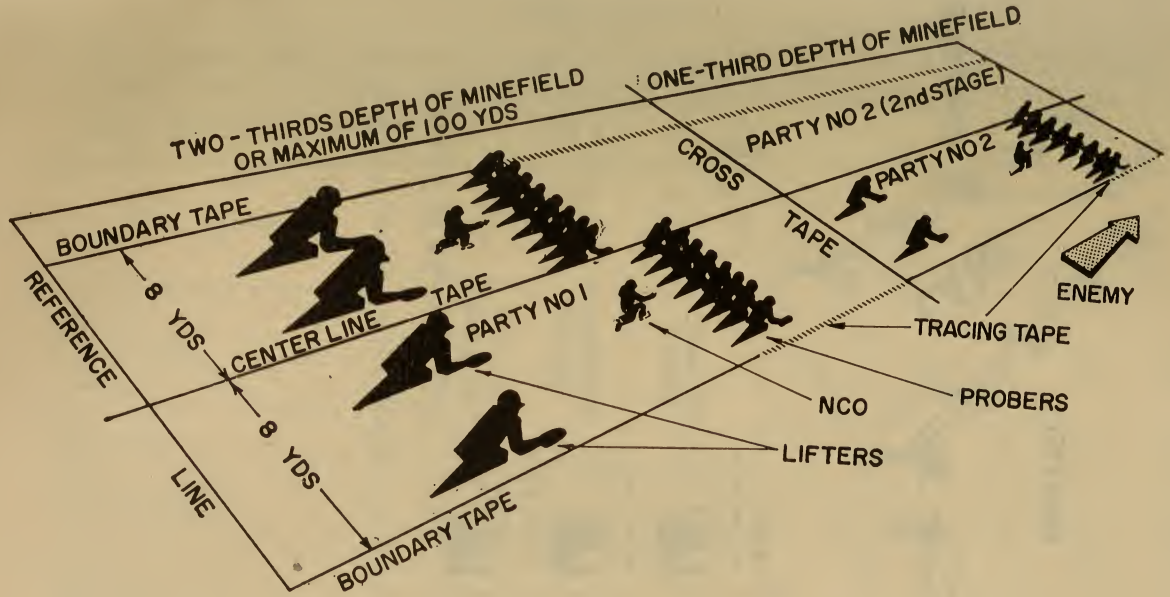

Figure 18.—Minefield lane marking—probing parties.

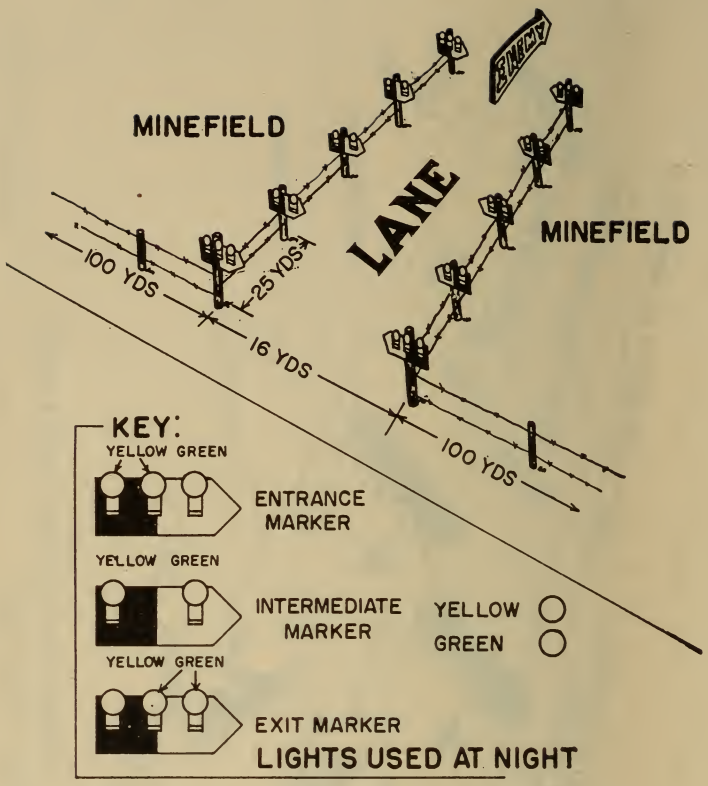

Figure 19.—Minefield lane marking—supply party.

APPENDIX D

I. THICKNESS OF MATERIALS REQUIRED TO PROTECT AGAINST PENETRATION OF FRAGMENTS FROM PROJECTILES AND BOMBS EXPLODING AT A DISTANCE OF 50 FEET

Material	Thickness measured in	High Explosive Shell			General Purpose Bomb			
		75–mm	105–mm	155–mm	100–pound	250–pound	500–pound	1,000 pound
Solid walls:								
Brick masonry	Inches	4	6	8	8	10	13	17
Concrete (plain)	Inches	4	5	6	8	11	15	18
Concrete (reinforced)	Inches	3	4	5	7	9	12	15
Timber	Inches	8	10	14	15	18	24	30
Walls of loose material packed between boards:								
Brick rubble	Inches	9	10	12	18	24	28	30
Gravel, small stones	Inches	9	10	12	18	24	28	30
Earth	Inches	15	18	24	24	30	—	—
Sandbags, filled with: [1]								
Brick rubble	Inches	10	10	20	20	20	30	40
Gravel, small stones	Inches	10	10	20	20	20	30	40
Sand	Inches	10	10	20	30	30	40	40
Earth	Inches	20	20	30	30	40	40	50
Parapets of: [2]								
Sand (dry)	Feet	1	1½	2	2	3	3	4
Earth (dry)	Feet	2	3	4	3	4	5	—

[1] Figures given in multiples of width or thickness of sandbags.
[2] Figures given to nearest half foot.

II. THICKNESS REQUIRED FOR PROTECTION AGAINST SINGLE SHOTS BY DIRECT-FIRE WEAPONS

Materials	Small arms and MG 7.92–mm fire at 100 yards [1]	AT rifle 7.92–mm fire at 100 yards	20–mm AT fire at 200 yards	37–mm AT fire at 400 yards	50–mm AT fire at 400 yards	75–mm direct fire 500–1000 yards	88–mm direct fire 500–1000 yards	Remarks
Solid walls: [2]								
Brick masonry—feet	1½	2	2½	5	----	----	----	
Concrete (not reinforced) [3] feet	1	1½	2	3½	4	4½	6½	Ordinary concrete walls.
Concrete (reinforced) [3]—do	½	1	1½	3	3½	4	5	Structurally reinforced.
Stone masonry—do	1	1½	2½	3½	4½	5	----	
Wood—do	2	3	4	----	----	----	----	These figures can be taken as guide only.
Timber—do	3	5	----	----	----	----	----	
Walls of loose materials packed between boards: [2]								
Brick rubble—feet	1	2	2½	5	5	----	----	
Clay (dry)—do	3	4	----	----	----	----	----	Add 100 percent if wet.
Loam (dry)—do	2	3	4	----	----	----	----	Add 50 percent if wet.
Gravel, small stones—do	1	2	2½	5	6	----	----	
Sand (dry)—do	1	2	2½	5	6	----	----	Add 100 percent if wet.
Sandbags filled with: [4]								
Brick rubble—inches	20	30	30	60	70	----	----	
Clay (dry)—do	40	60	----	----	----	----	----	Add 100 percent if wet.
Loam (dry)—do	30	50	60	----	----	----	----	Add 50 percent if wet.
Gravel, small stones—do	20	30	30	60	70	----	----	
Sand (dry)—do	20	30	30	60	70	----	----	Add 100 percent if wet.

Loose parapets of: [2]								
Clay----------feet--	3½	5	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	Add 100 percent if wet.
Loam----------do----	3	4	5	--------	--------	--------	--------	Add 50 percent if wet.
Sand----------do----	2	3	4	--------	--------	--------	--------	Add 100 percent if wet.

[1] One burst of five shots.
[2] Thickness given to the nearest half foot.
[3] For 3,000 pounds per square inch concrete.
[4] Thickness for walls made of sandbags given in multiples of filled bag widths (10 inches).

Note.—Protective thickness given is for a single shot only. Where direct-fire weapons are able to get five or six hits in the area, the required protective thickness is approximately twice that indicated.

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